

In this Corner of the World



3

story and art by
FUMIYO KOUNO



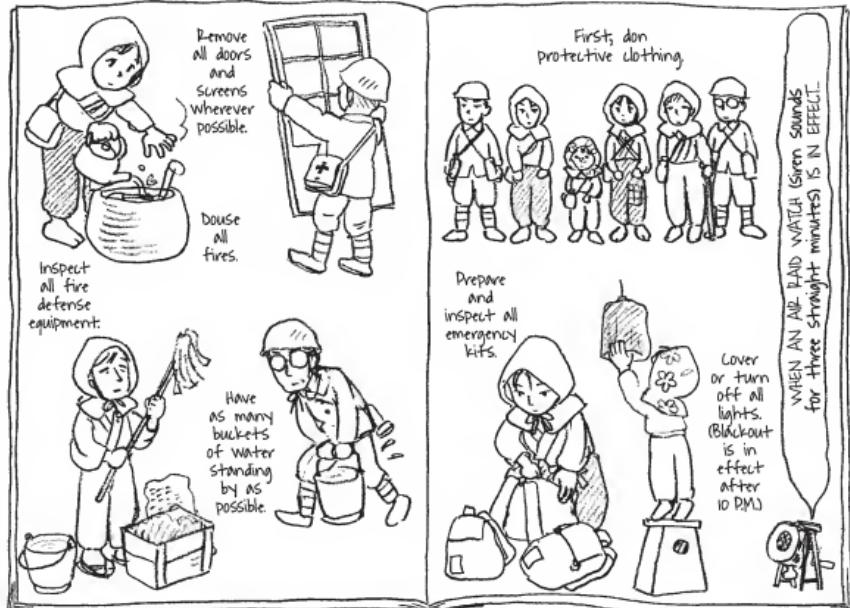
In this Corner of the World ③

story and art by **FUMIYO KOUNO**
Translation by Adrienne Beck

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BROO

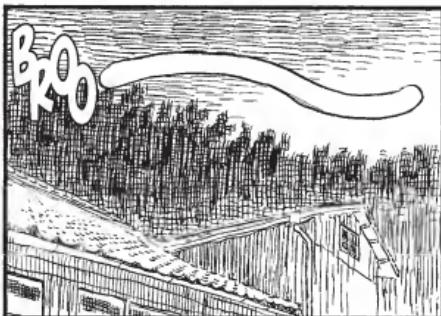
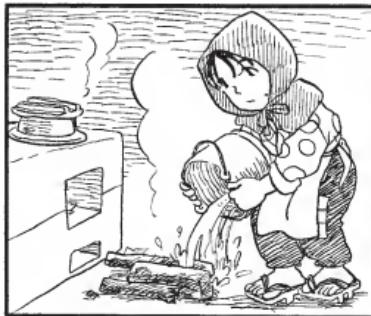
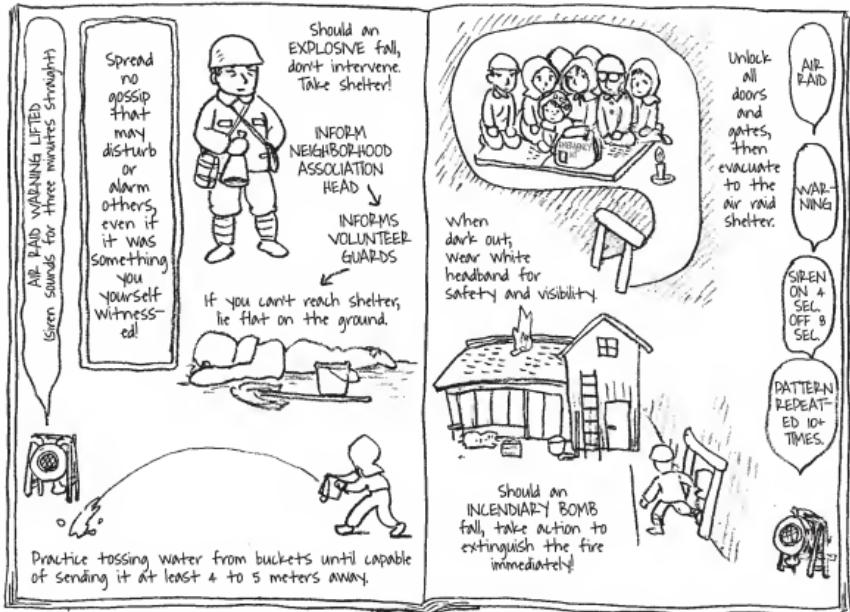
AH.

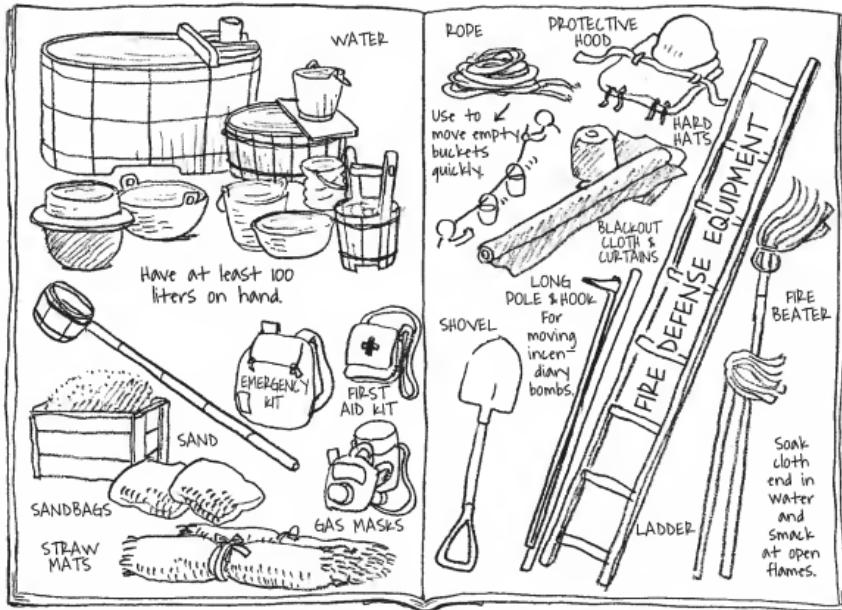


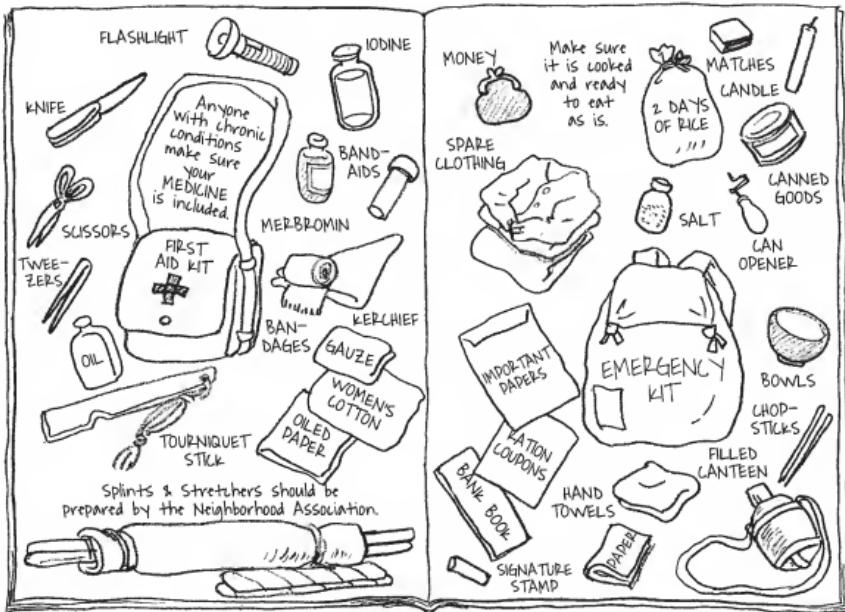
CHAPTER 29

(April, 1945)





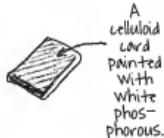




TYPES OF

INCENDIARY LEAF

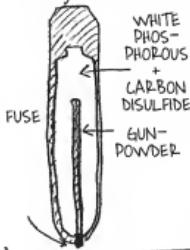
Look like cards 5-10cm big. It catches fire when dry.



Pick up with fire tongs and submerge in a bucket of water. Once all are collected, set in a safe location and burn.

WHITE PHOS-PHOROUS BOMB

Highly penetrative. Shoots flames across long distance.

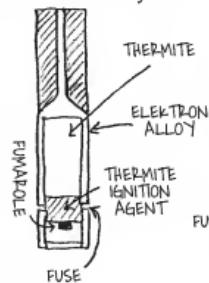


Remove anything splashed by this and submerge in water. If it does, it will catch fire. Do not touch directly.

INCENDIARY BOMBS

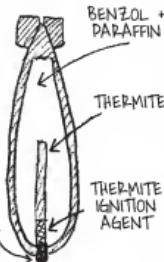
ELEKTRON BOMB

Emits a blinding light and heat of over 2,000-3,000 degrees.

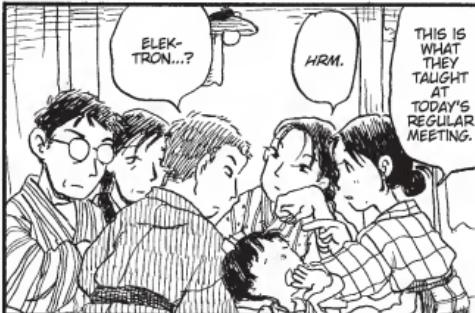


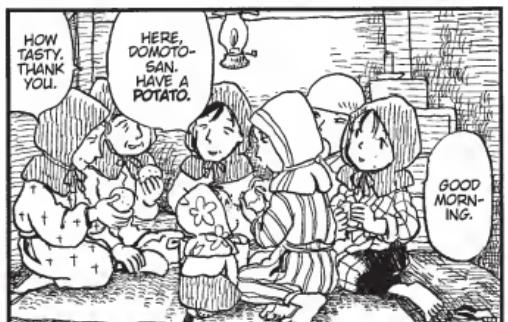
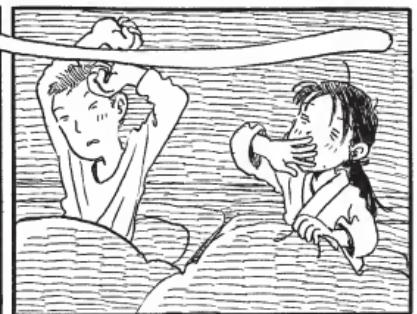
PETROLEUM BOMB

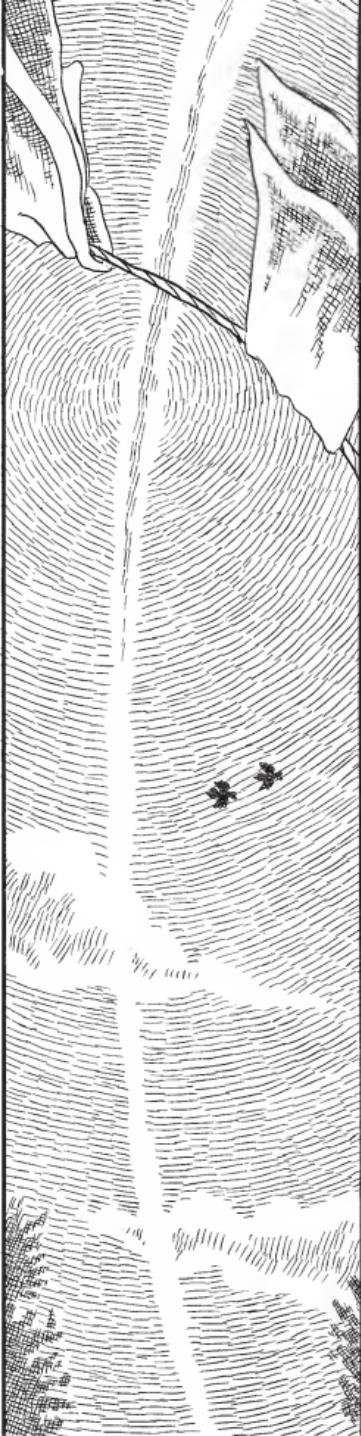
Turns area into a sea of flame.



Throw sand or water on it and beat with a wet fire beater. When the fire dies down to a manageable level, use a shovel to carry it away.

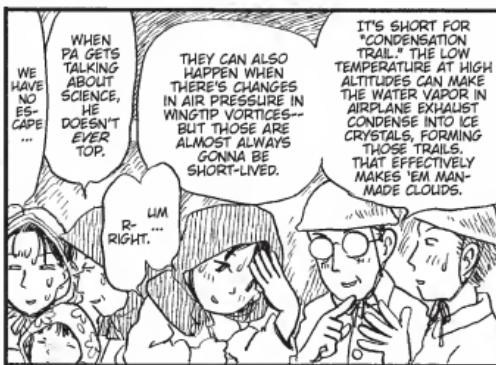






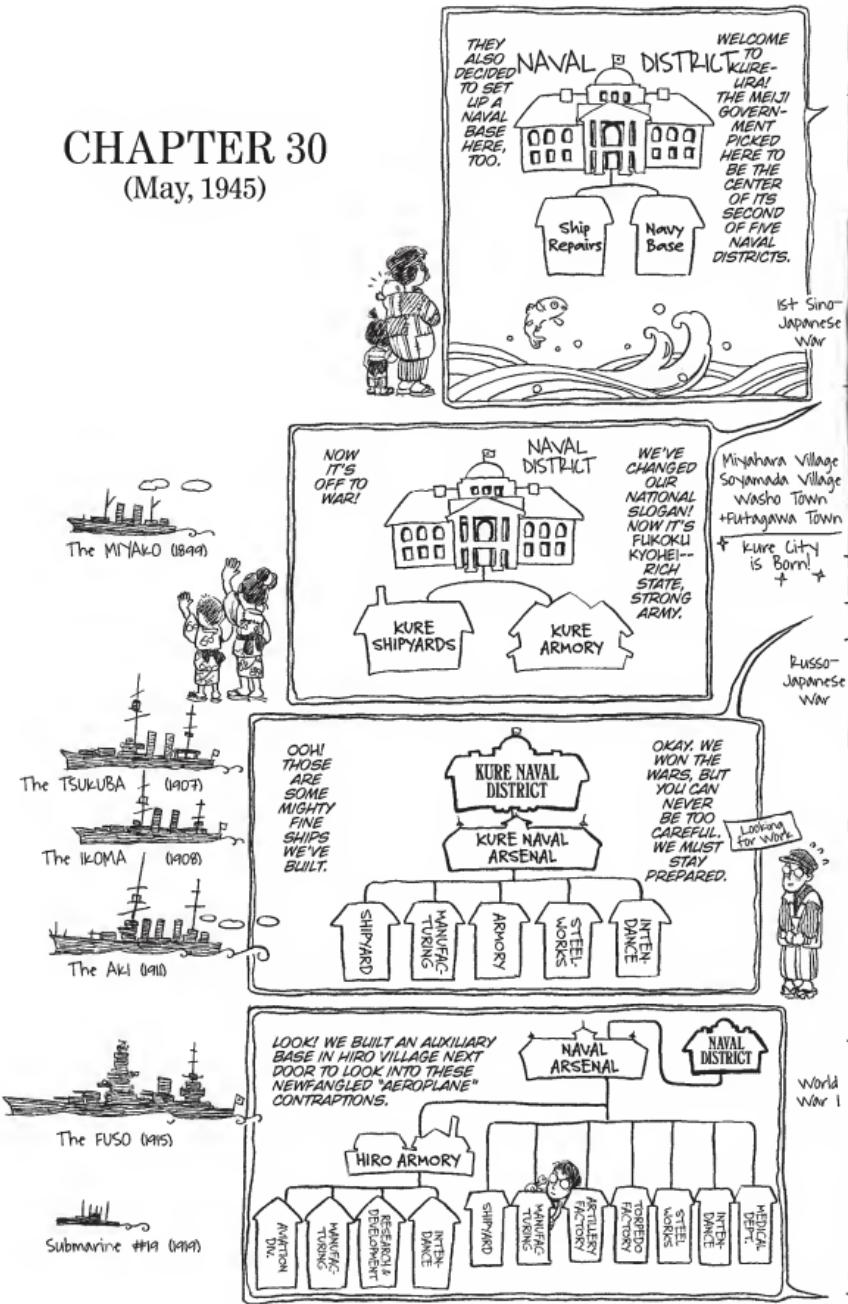


It's thought the first contrail was seen over Japan in 1931. They were still a rare sight when B29s, which flew at very high altitudes, left them in their wakes flying over Kure in 1945.



CHAPTER 30

(May, 1945)



1922

Washington
Five Power
Naval
Treaty

1923

TASHO ERA

BUT IT DIDN'T SAY
ANYTHING ABOUT
AIRPLANES!
LET'S MAKE
HIRO
ARSENAL
AN INDE-
PENDENT
BASE.

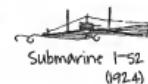
HIRO NAVAL
ARSENAL

NAVAL
DISTRICT

WELL, WE
SIGNED
A TREATY
THAT SAYS
WE CAN'T
MAKE
TOO MANY
WARSHIPS.



The NAGATO (1920)



Submarine I-52
(1924)

1930

1st
London
Naval
Treaty

HRM,
HAVING TO
DOWNSIZE
IS SAD
BUT COM-
ARED
TO THE
IMPOR-
TANCE OF
PEACE!..

HIRO NAVAL
ARSENAL

KURE NAVAL
ARSENAL

WHAT?
EVEN
MORE
DISARMA-
MENT?!



The AKAGI (1927)



The NACHI (1928)

1931

SHOWA ERA

Man-
churian
Incident

Hiro
Arsenal
Written)

OH,
WHATEVER!
EVERYONE
GET BACK
HERE! TAKE
UP THOSE
HAMMERS,
THERE'S
WORK
TO DO!

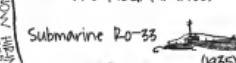
HIRO NAVAL
ARSENAL

KURE NAVAL
ARSENAL

WAIT,
WHAT?
WE'RE GOING
TO WAR!?



The MOGAMI (1935)



Submarine Ro-33

(1935)

1934

1935

The
Great
Exposition
of the
National
Defense
&
Industry
At Kure
City

THE
HORROR
OF THE
WAVES.

HIRO NAVAL
ARSENAL

KURE NAVAL
ARSENAL

NON-NA-
VAL NEEDS



1937

2nd
Sino-
Japanese
War

IS AS
THE ROAR
OF THE
WAVES.

HIRO NAVAL
ARSENAL

KURE NAVAL
ARSENAL

THE CLANG
OF HAMMERS...



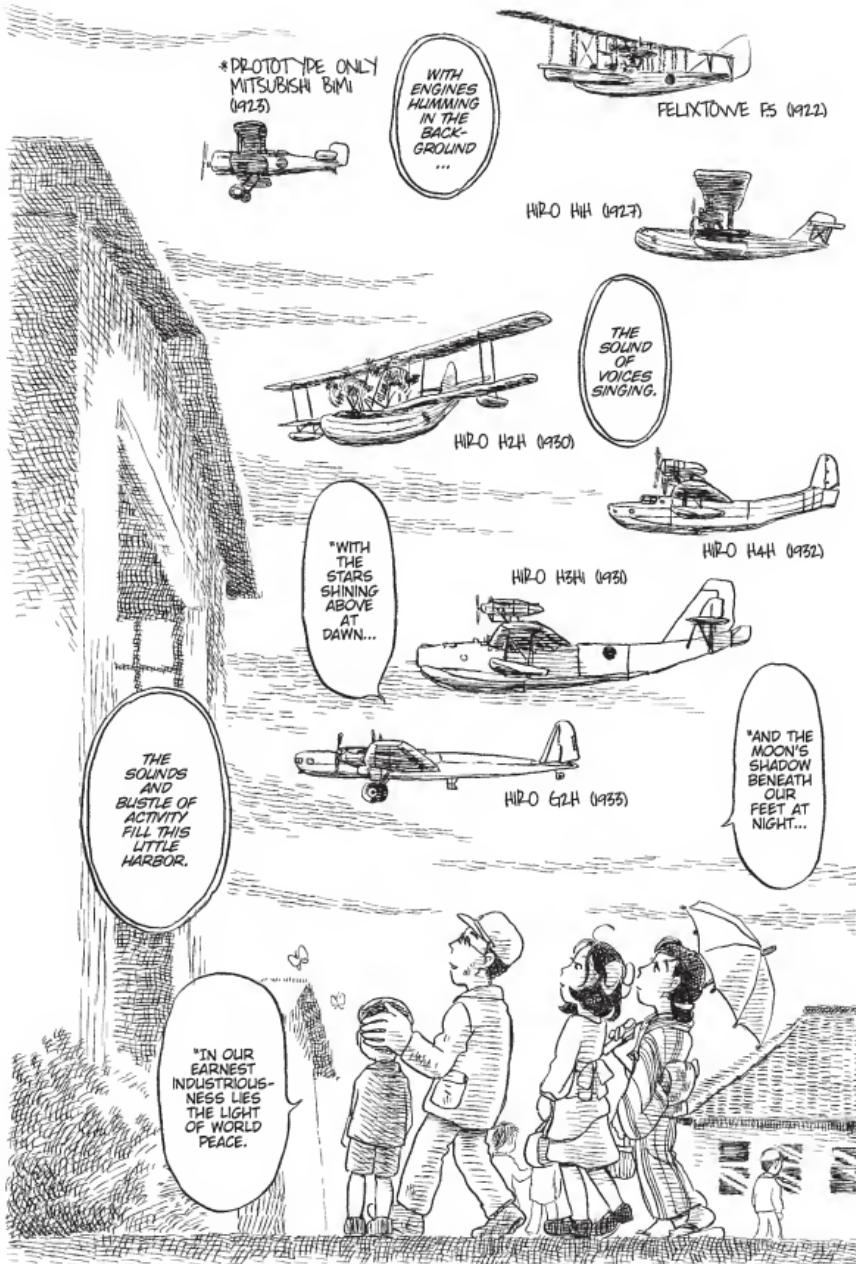
The CHITOSE (1938)



The YAMATO (1941)

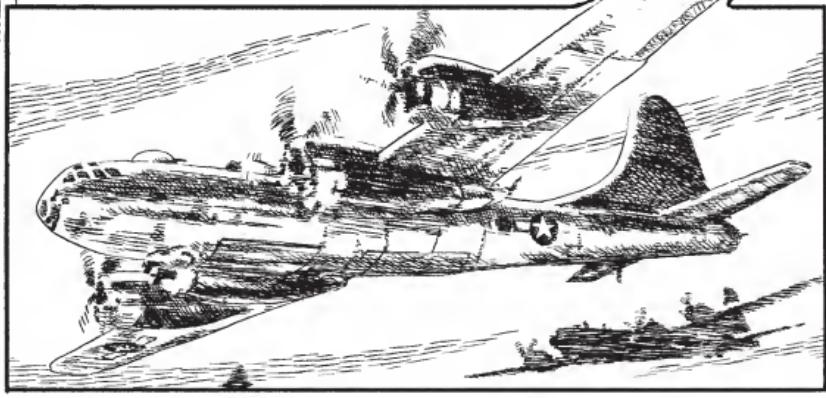
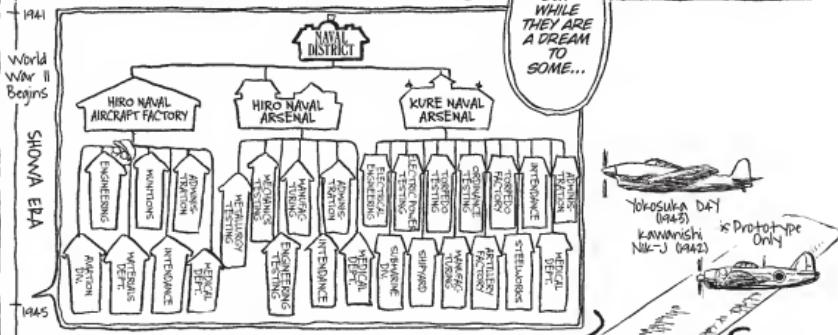
1941

Hiro
Village
merged
with
Kure
City

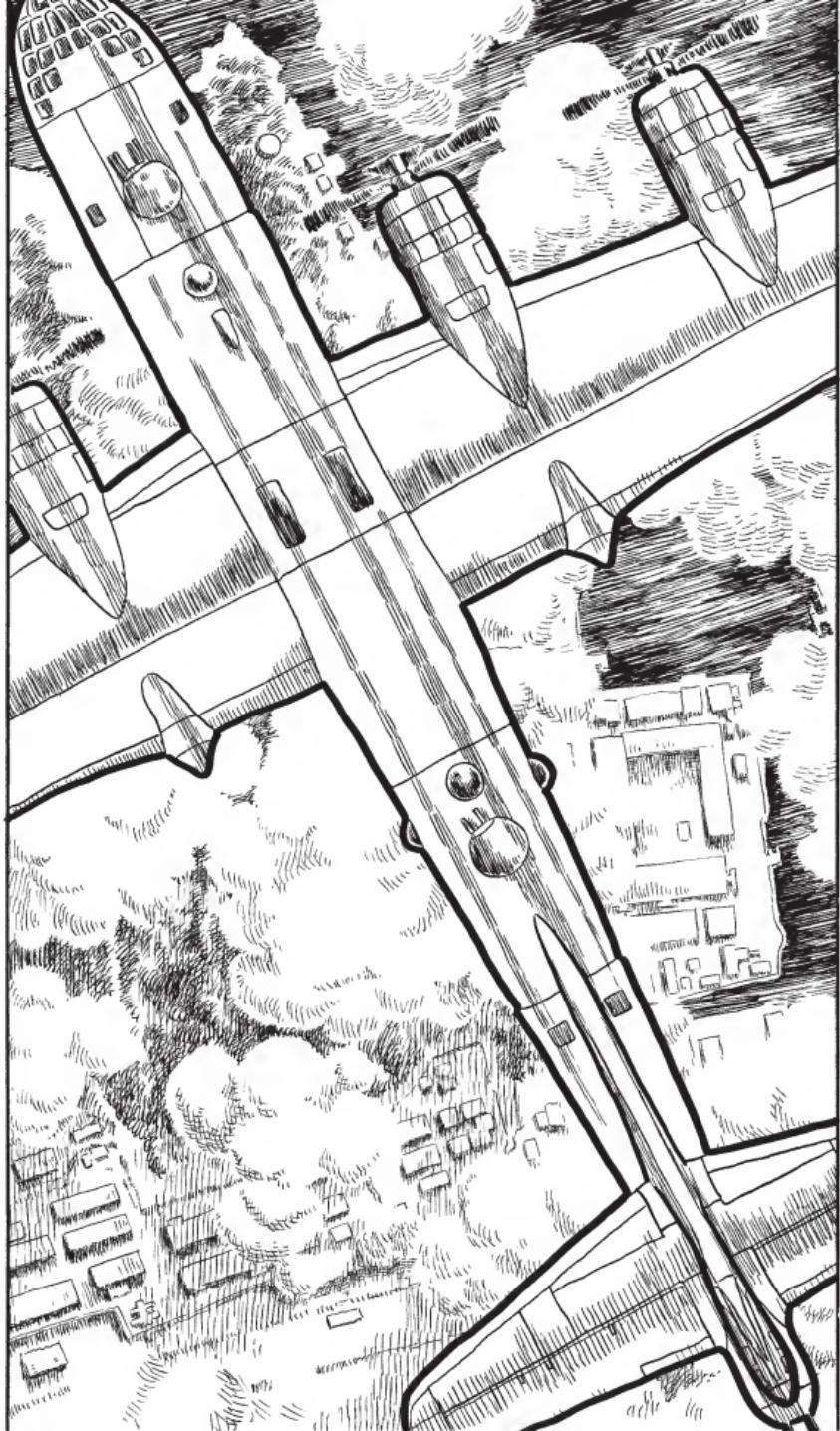




What Enario is saying here is the second verse of the *Hiro Arsenal March*, the official march of the Imperial Japanese Navy, composed by Seigoku Tokichi in 1867. The title was made the Arsenal's official anthem in 1934.







On May 5th, 1945, between 10:27 A.M. and 11:05 A.M., an Allied air strike on the naval facilities in Hiro Town, Kure City, was carried out by upwards of 130 B-29 Superfortresses. Both the Hiro Arsenal and the Aircraft Factory were largely destroyed. There were over 1,000 casualties in the attack, with 22 navy workers (not servicemen) and 32 civilians reported killed or missing.



Though sections of both the Hiro Arsenal and the Aircraft Factory were damaged, casualties were extremely light...

I'M HOME.

AH,
WELL, IF
ANYTHING
HAPPENED,
WE'LL
HEAR
FROM
THE
DISTRICT.

HE
HASN'T
COME
BACK
YET.

OH!!
SHU-
SAKU.
YOU'RE
OKAY?

YEAH,
I'M
FINE.
WHAT
ABOUT
PA?

IT AIN'T
EASY
TO GO
TO THE
ARSENAL
ANYMORE.
SO ALL WE
CAN DO
IS WAIT.

SUZU-
SAN.

OH!!
WA-
TER'S
BOILING.

ER,
SHU-
SAKU-
SAN?

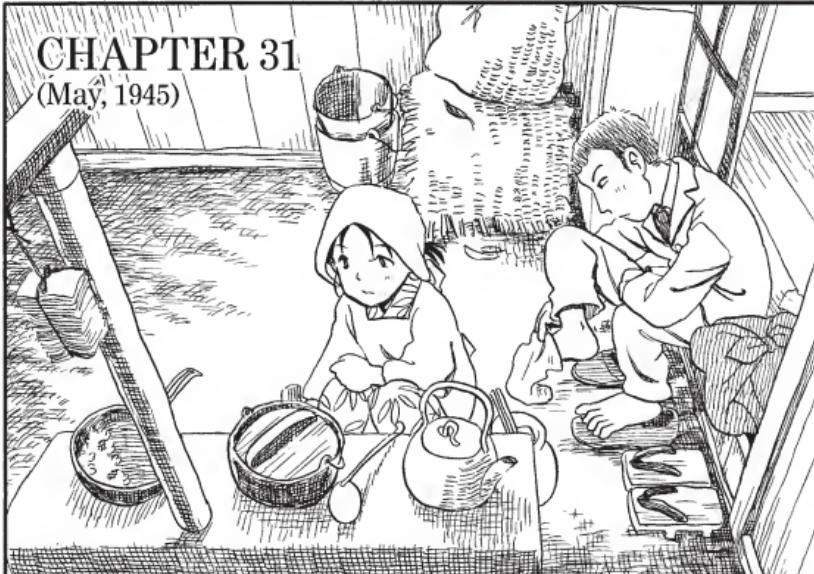
YOU
FINISHED
WRAPPING
YOUR
PUTTEES
A WHILE
AGO...

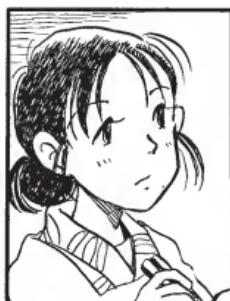
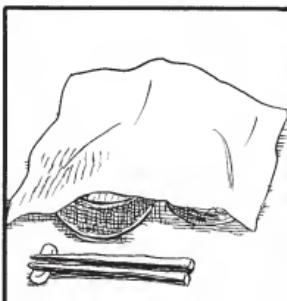
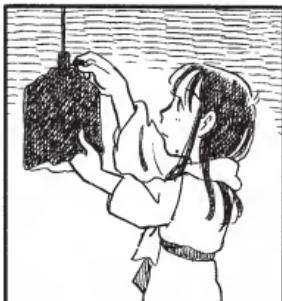
AH.

88 Japanese naval installations were actually open to and welcoming of the public until the late 1930s. However, once the war began in earnest in 1941, the government strictly locked down access to them in order to prevent espionage.

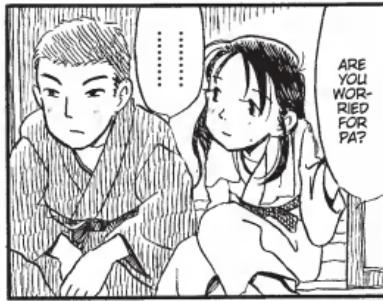
Mid-morning on the 5th, 125 large enemy aircraft staged an attack on Hiro Town. Though sections of both the Hiro Arsenal and the Aircraft Factory were damaged, casualties were extremely light...

CHAPTER 31 (May, 1945)





Unlike the United States Marine Corps, the Japanese marine corps were not a special fighting unit, but instead the division responsible for training new and low ranking recruits. There was at least one group stationed at each naval district.

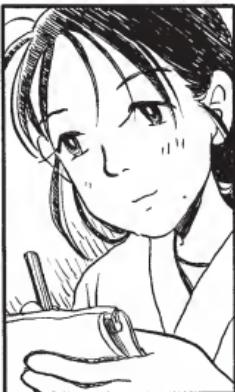
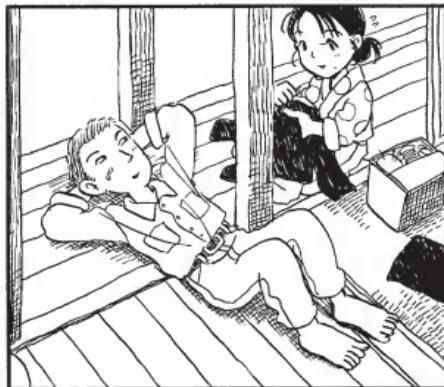


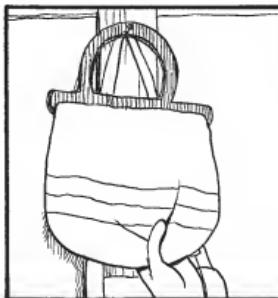


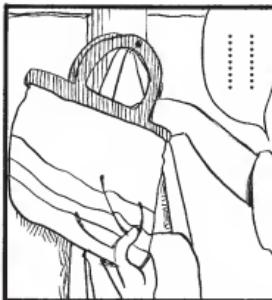
AND AFTER THAT?
CAN YOU COME HOME?

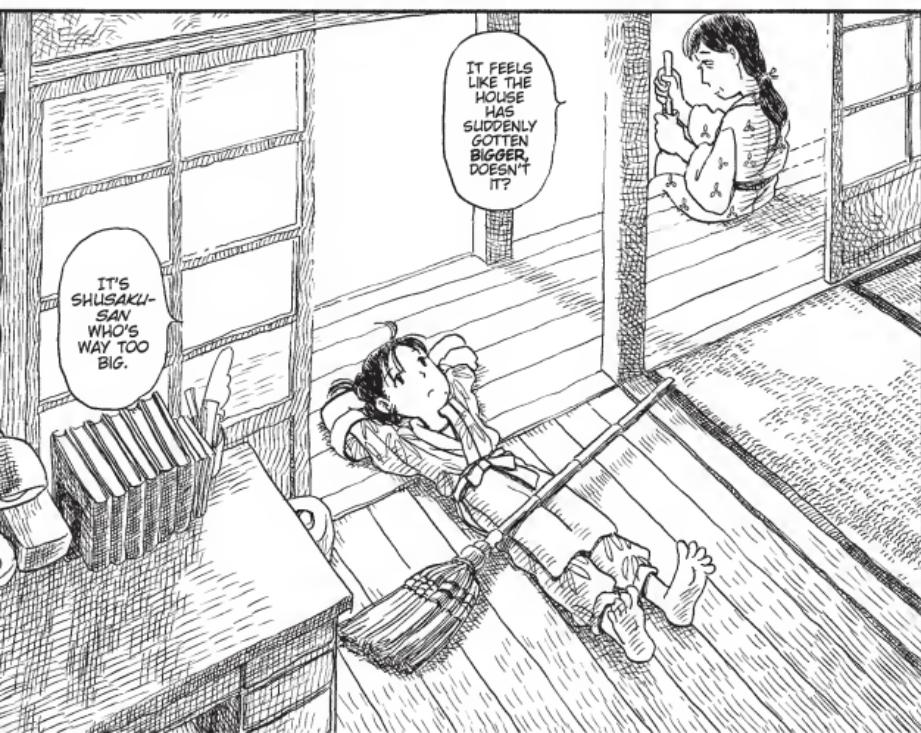
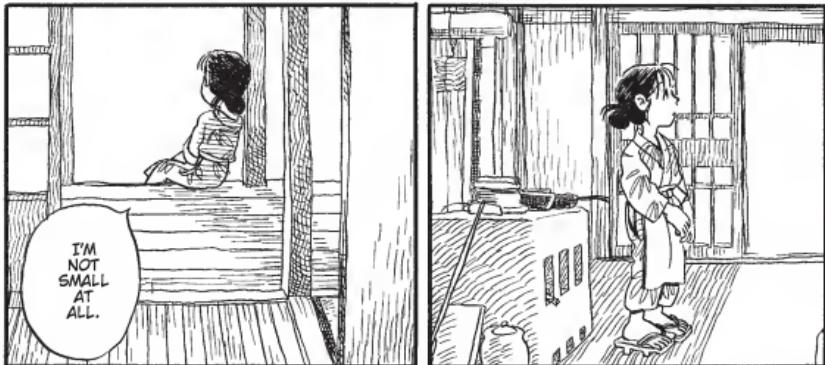


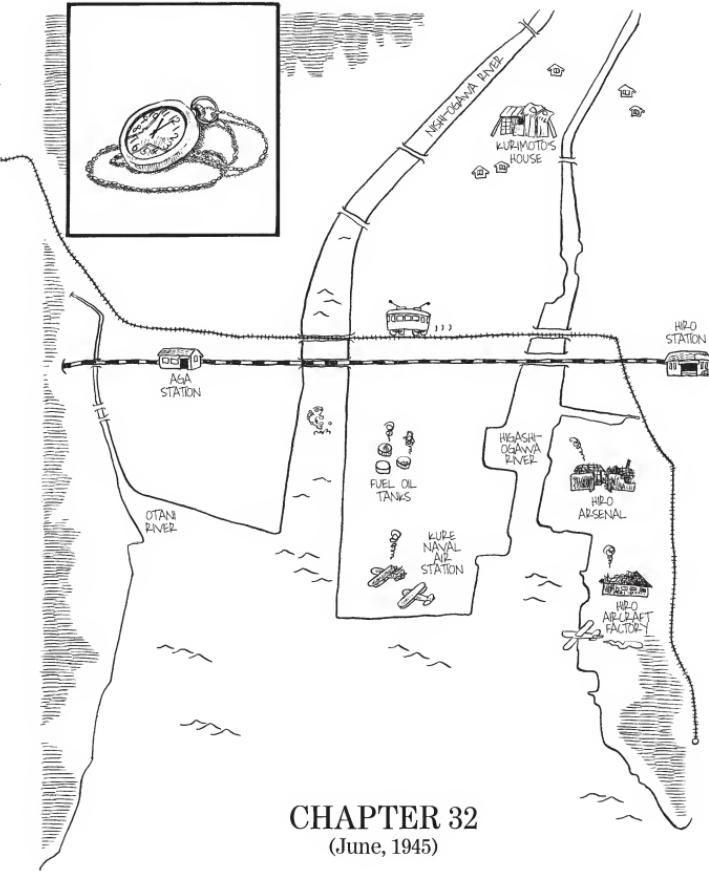
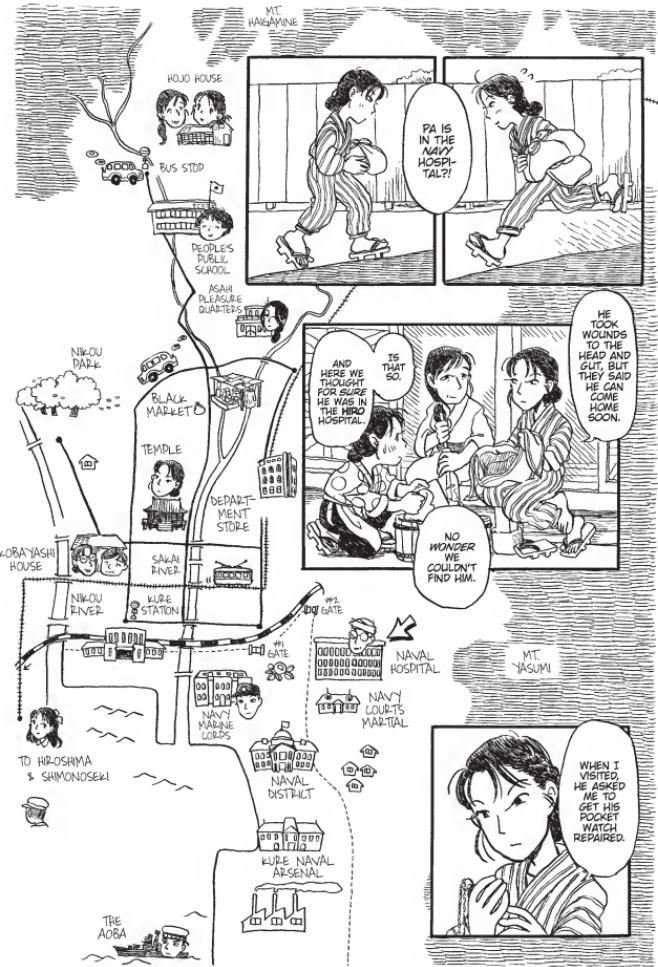






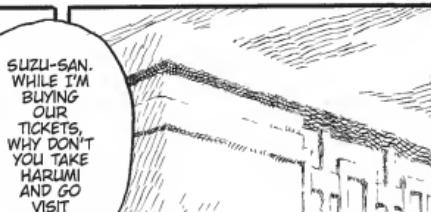


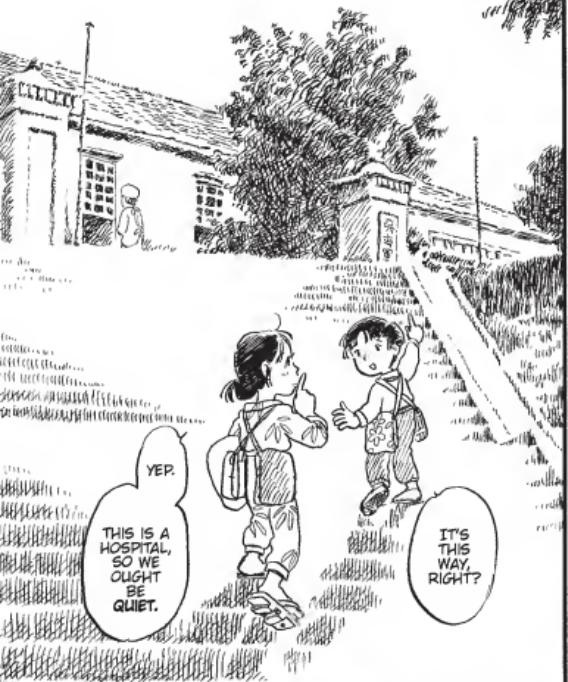




CHAPTER 32

(June, 1945)

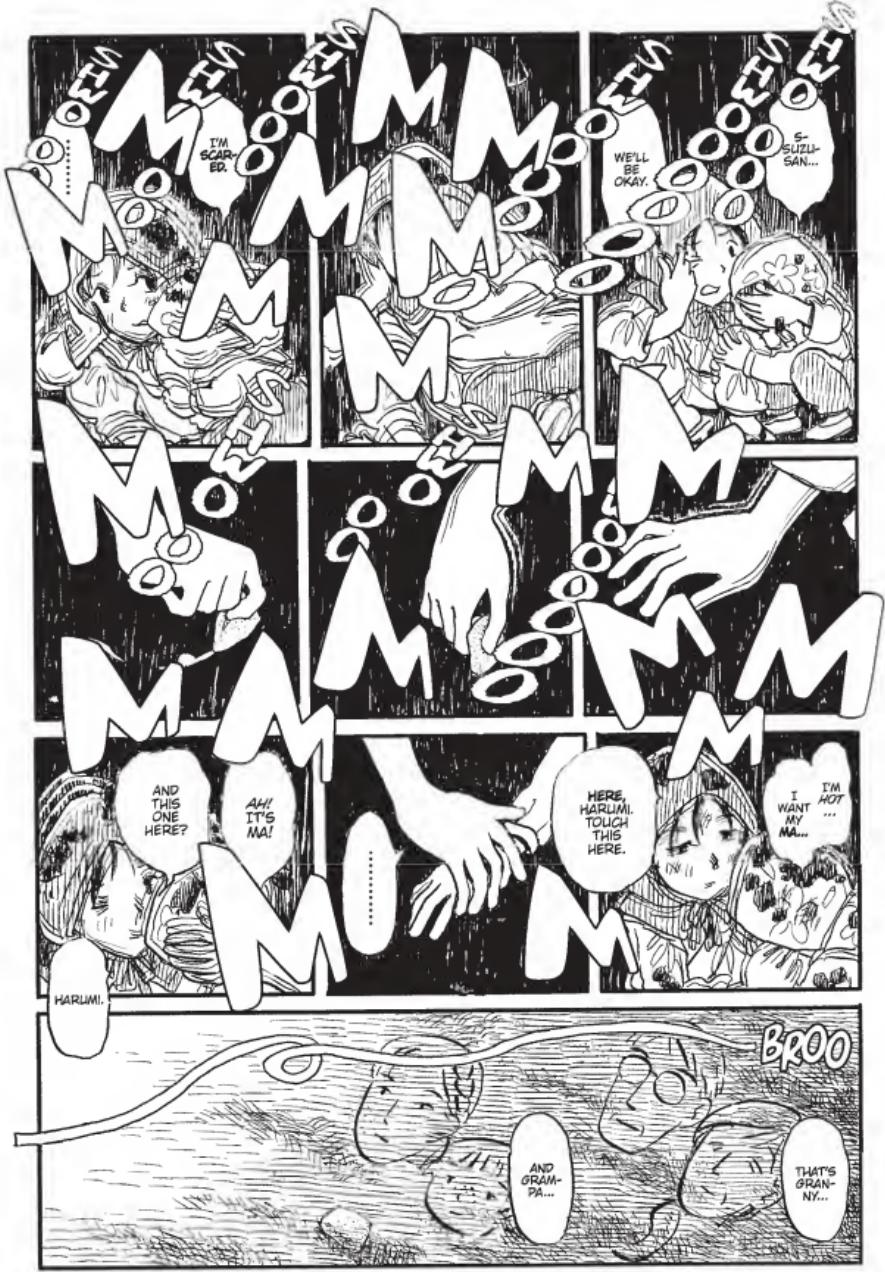




On April 7th, 1945, as the Battle of the East China Sea, the Japanese Navy initiated Operation Ten-Go, a large-scale suicide attack on Allied forces in Okinawa. This engagement is also known as the symbol of the Japanese empire, was sunk by at least 11 torpedoes and 6 bombs. This news was not broken to the public until much, much later.

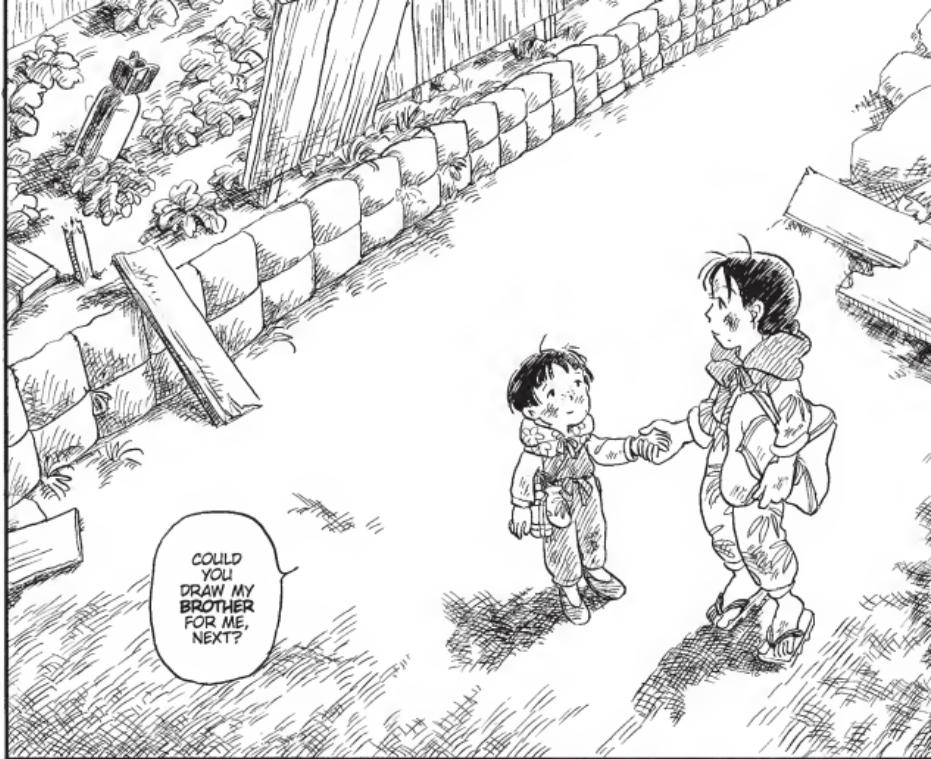






60 On June 22nd, 1945 from 9:20 A.M. to about noon, approximately 180 Boeing B-29 Superfortresses carried out an extensive attack on the Kure Naval Arsenal. The majority of the installation was destroyed, with only 200 personnel surviving. Of those, 220 were killed, while 700 civilians were killed, while 1000 were missing.





 Delay-Action Bombs were aerial bombs designed to explode anywhere from a few minutes to several days after impact. Bombs of this type may have been used in the attack on Kure.

CHAPTER 33

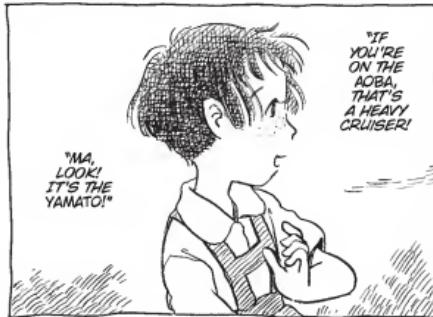
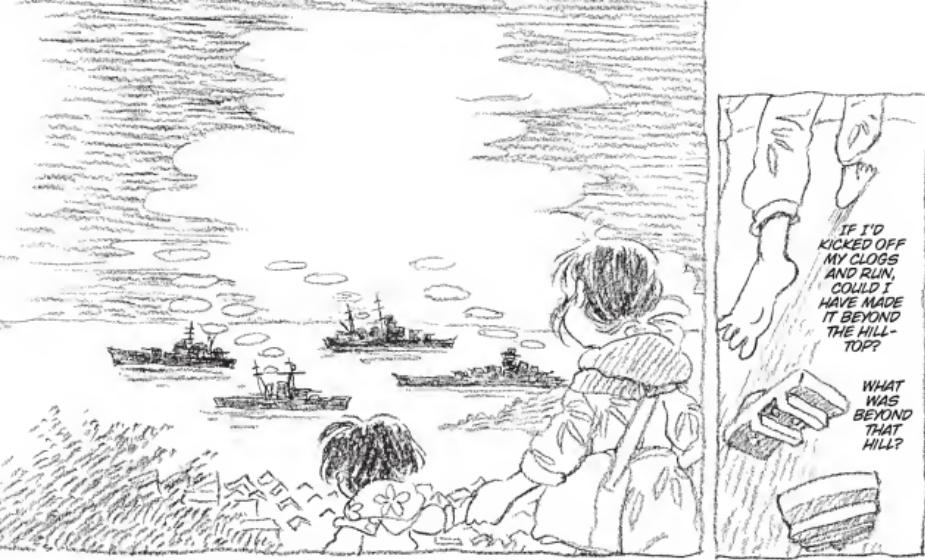
(June, 1945)

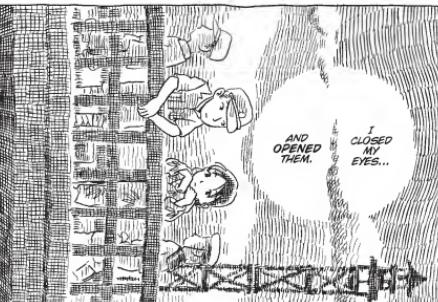


O!!
SOME-
ONE
COME
HELP!

MUSTA
BEEN A
TIME-
DELAY
ONE.



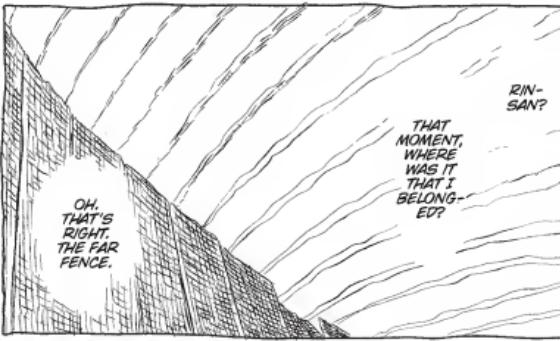
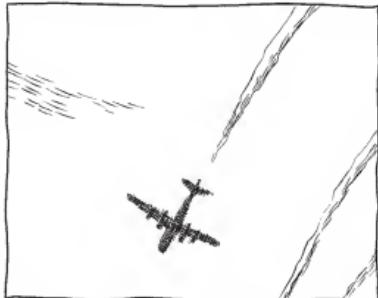


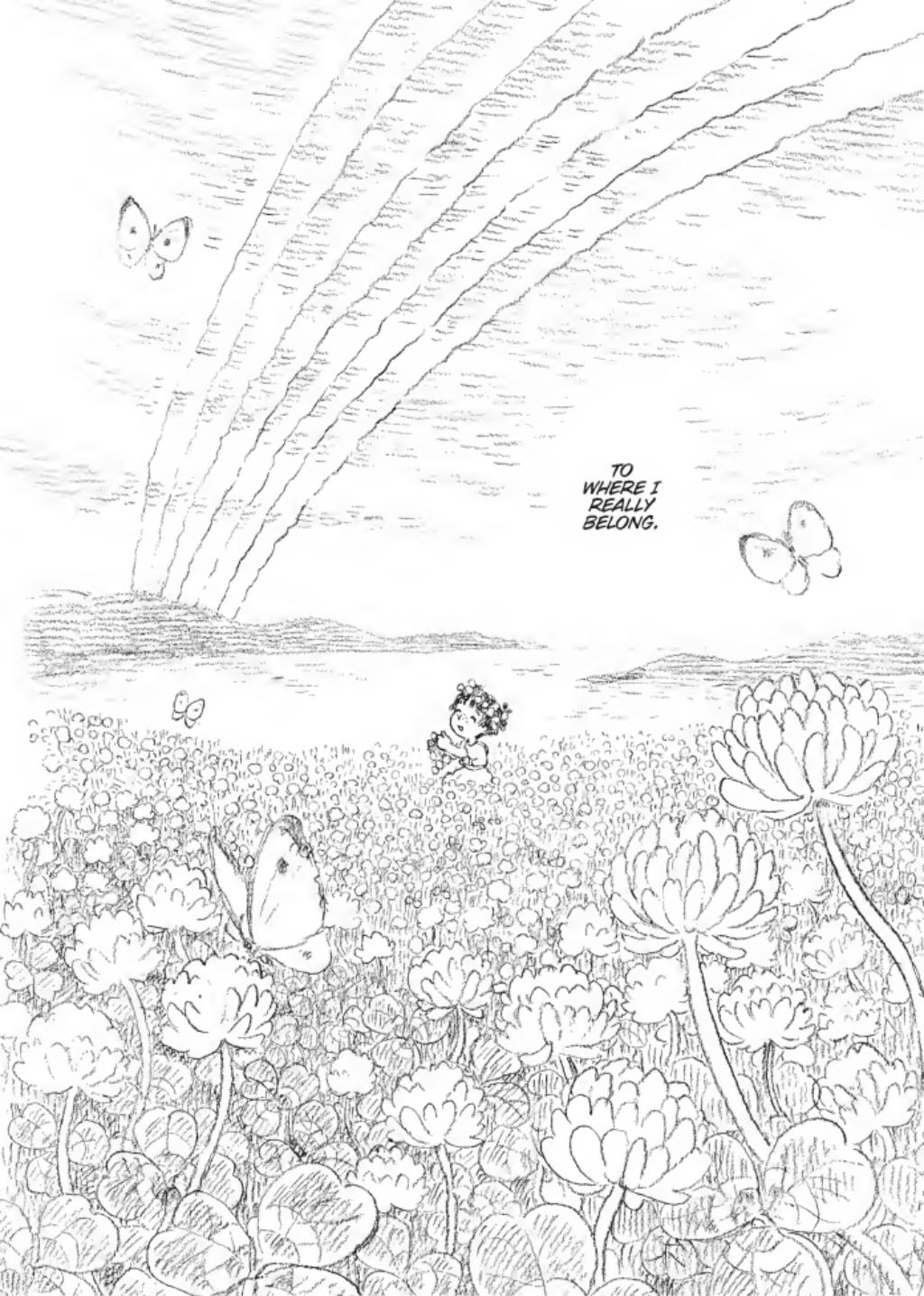


THEY
CAREFULLY
BRUSHED
HER OFF.
CLOSED
HER, BUT I
WON'T EVER
REACH HER
AGAIN.



WHERE
DID I GO
WRONG?





TO
WHERE I
REALLY
BELONG.





THEY
WRECKED
HER HOME
FOR HER.
DON'T
NEED A
BETTER
EXCUSE
THAN
THAT.



DID SHE
GET TO
LEAVE
THIS
TOWN?

HER
HOUSE
WAS DE-
STROYED.
I WONDER
WHAT
HAPPENED
TO HER?

LIES!

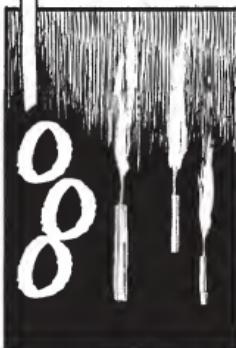
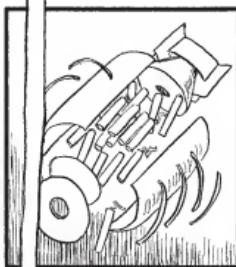
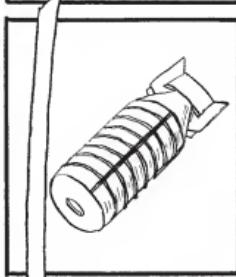
THAT
LADY.

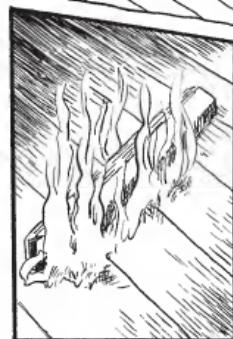


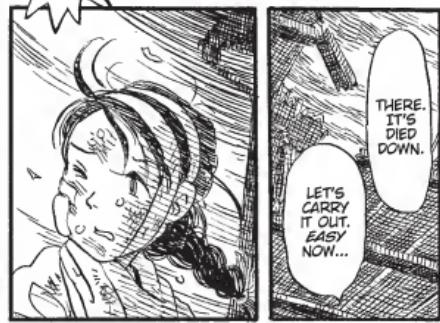
CHAPTER 34

(July, 1945)





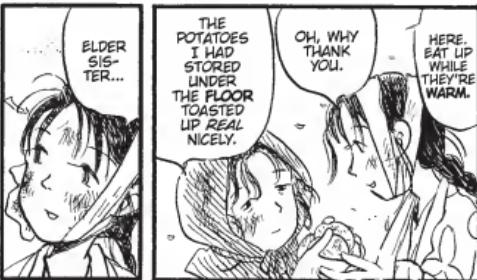






From 11:50 P.M. July 1st to about 2:30 A.M. July 2nd, 1945, upwards of 80 B-29 Superfortresses conducted an attack on Kure. A carpet bombing attack, its target was the city of Kure itself. The bombardment consisted mainly of incendiary bombs and much of the city was turned into a sea of flames. 122,535 civilian casualties were recorded, 1,817 of whom were killed.







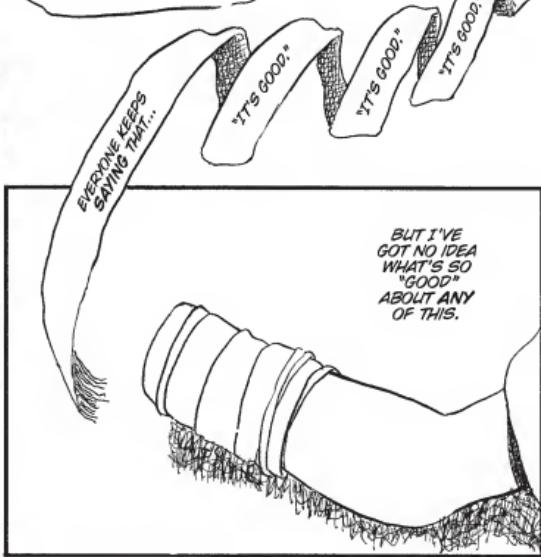
SHU-SAKU-SAN...

COULD I ASK YOU SOMETHING?



CHAPTER 35

(July, 1945)





THE HAND THAT HAD SMACKED SHUSAKU-SAN IN EMBARRASSMENT LAST SEPTEMBER.

THE HAND THAT HAD DRAWN A WATERMELON FOR RIN-SAN LAST AUGUST.

THE HAND THAT HAD DRAWN THE SKETCH OF THE TONE AND THE HYUGA THAT GOT ME IN TROUBLE LAST JULY.

THE HAND THAT HAD HELD THE MUSTARD SPINACH SEEDS LAST JUNE.

THE HAND THAT HAD DROPPED ITS CHOPSTICKS IN SURPRISE AT THE LORD KUSUNOKI RICE LAST MAY.

THE HAND THAT HAD PICKED DANDELIONS LAST APRIL.

THE HAND THAT HAD DRAWN THE SKETCH OF HOME LAST MARCH.

THE HAND THAT HAD TOUCHED SHUSAKU-SAN FOR THE FIRST TIME LAST FEBRUARY.

THE HAND THAT HAD LOVED MAKING SEAWEED IN WINTER, TWO YEARS AGO.

THE HAND THAT HAD DRAWN SO MANY LEAPING RABBITS SEVEN YEARS AGO.

THE HAND THAT HAD DRAWN A PICTURE OF MA IN THE SAND FOR SUMI-CHAN IN SUMMER, TEN YEARS AGO.

YESTERDAY, I FOUND OUT MY RIGHT HAND WAS GONE.

THE HAND THAT HAD GRABBED HARUMI-SAN'S HAND IN JUNE.

THE HAND THAT HAD SKETCHED SHUSAKU-SAN'S SLEEPING FACE IN MAY.

THE HAND THAT HAD TAKEN TERU-SAN'S LIP ROUGE IN APRIL.

THE HAND THAT HAD COPIED HISAO-SAN'S TEXTBOOKS IN MARCH.

THE HAND THAT HAD PICKED UP THE ROCK THAT WAS BIG BROTHER'S BRAINS IN FEBRUARY.

THE HAND THAT HAD GRABBED SO MANY KARUTA CARDS IN JANUARY.

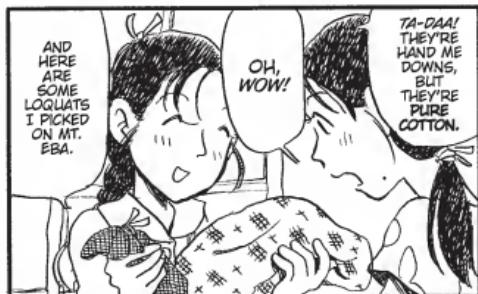
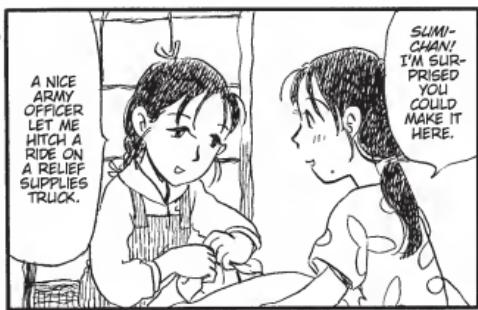
THE HAND THAT HAD HELD MIZUHARA-SAN'S HAND LAST DECEMBER.

THE HAND THAT HAD CUT THE WRONG PARTS OF ELDER SISTER'S COAT LAST NOVEMBER.

THE HAND THAT HAD TREMBLED OPENING THAT DRAWER LAST OCTOBER.

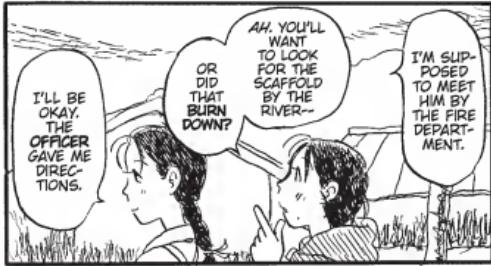


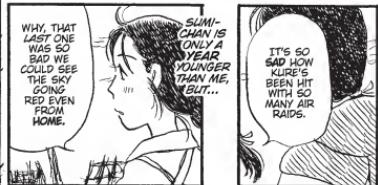
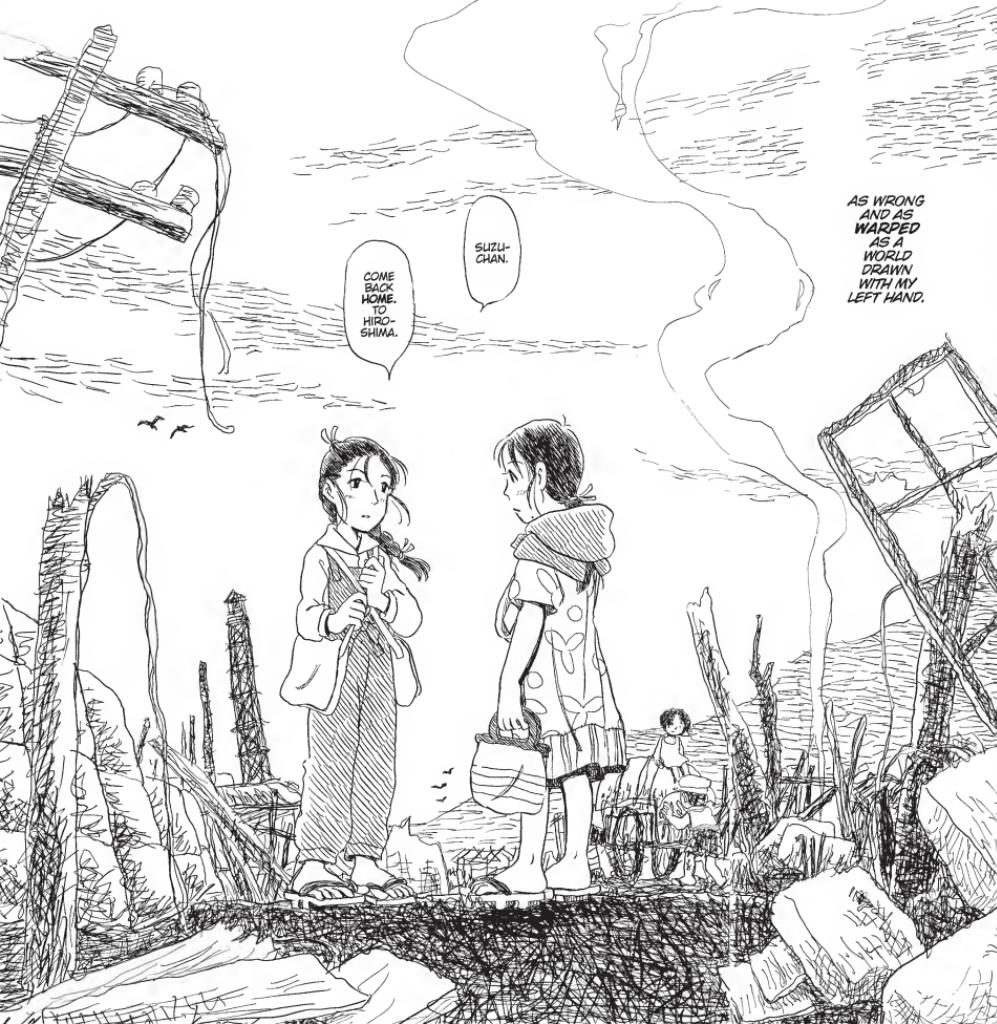
A NICE
ARMY
OFFICER
LET ME
HITCH A
RIDE ON
A RELIEF
SUPPLIES
TRUCK.



Starting in 1958, the Japanese government mandated that all cotton yarns and fabrics be blended with the synthetic fiber rayon (called "suti" in Japanese). The cheaply made rayon was poor quality and not very durable. Fabrics and clothes made with 100% natural cotton quickly became very valuable.

In the Japanese army, all officers (as opposed to enlisted men) had a rank of at least second lieutenant or higher.







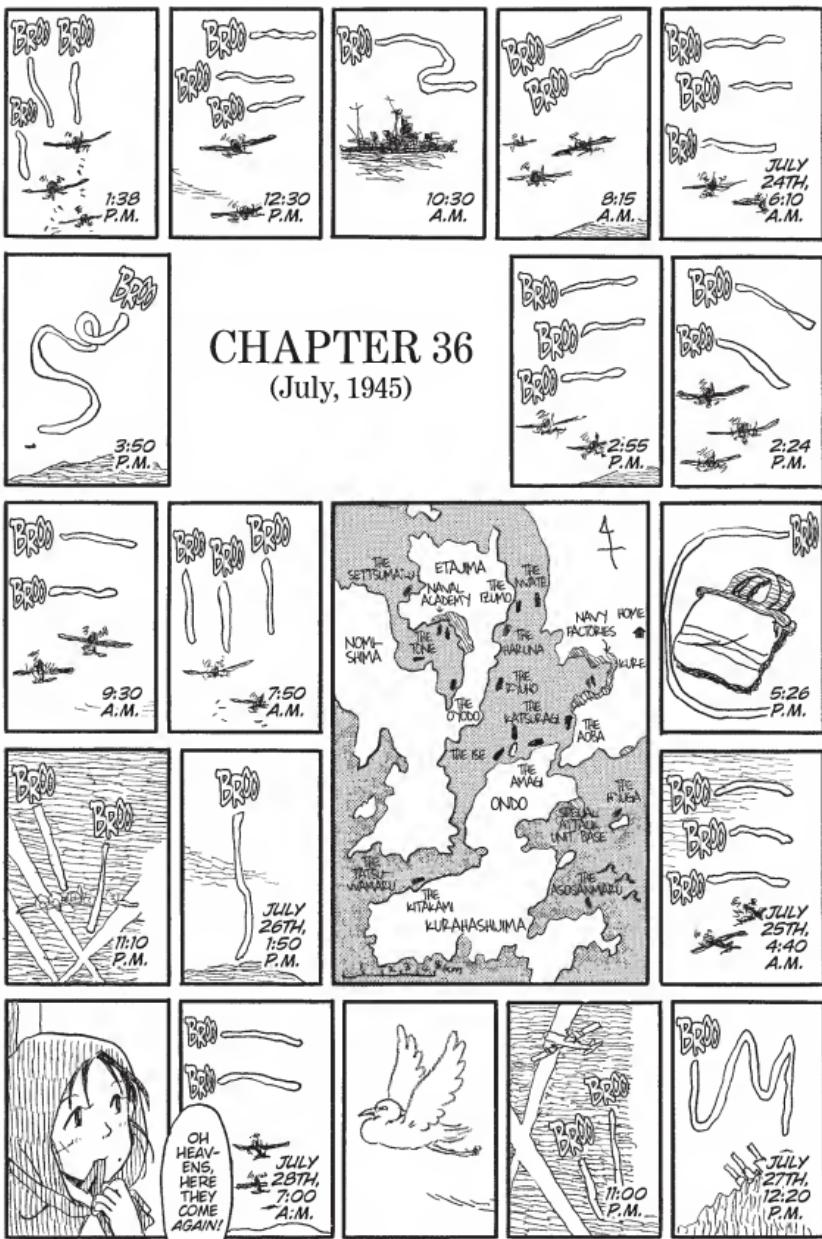
I'M GLAD.



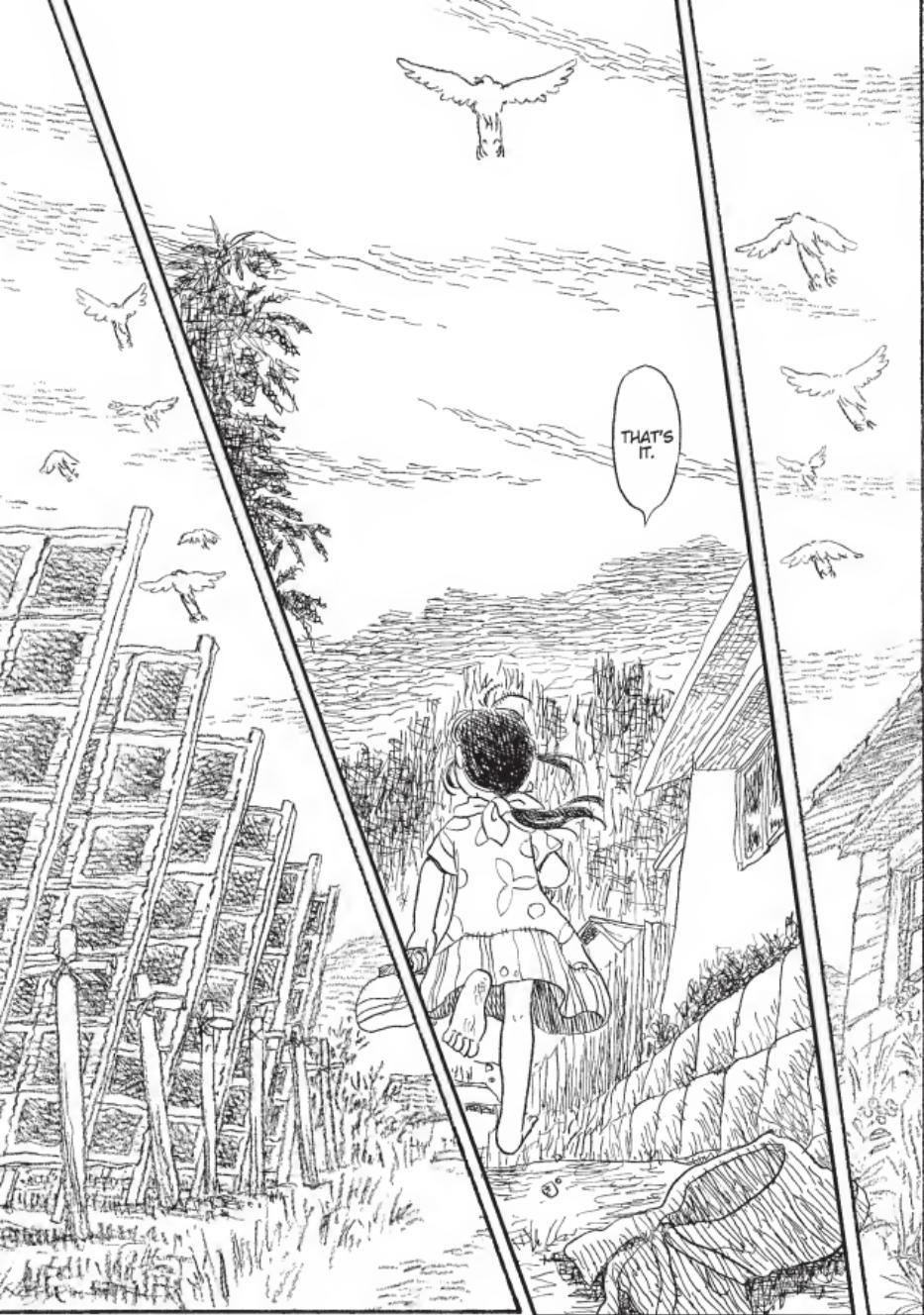
The Bombing of Kure. From July 24th to July 29th, 1945, Allied Forces conducted a large-scale attack on Kure harbour, targeting the Japanese Navy warships anchored there. Upwards of 1,850 carrier-based aircraft and almost 350 B-29 and B-24 bombers attacked in waves across those five days. By the end of the attack, the Japanese Imperial Navy had lost almost all of its large warships. 920 navy personnel were killed, with another 2,689 civilian casualties (121 dead) reported.

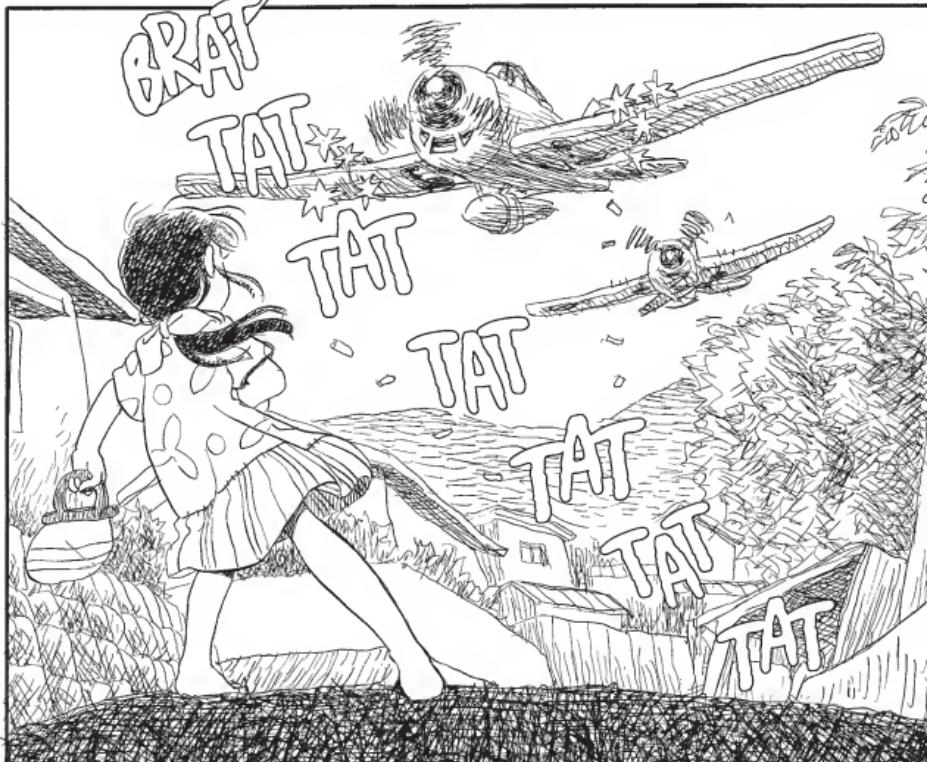
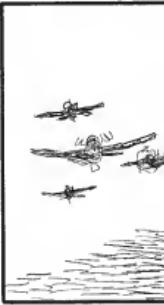
CHAPTER 36

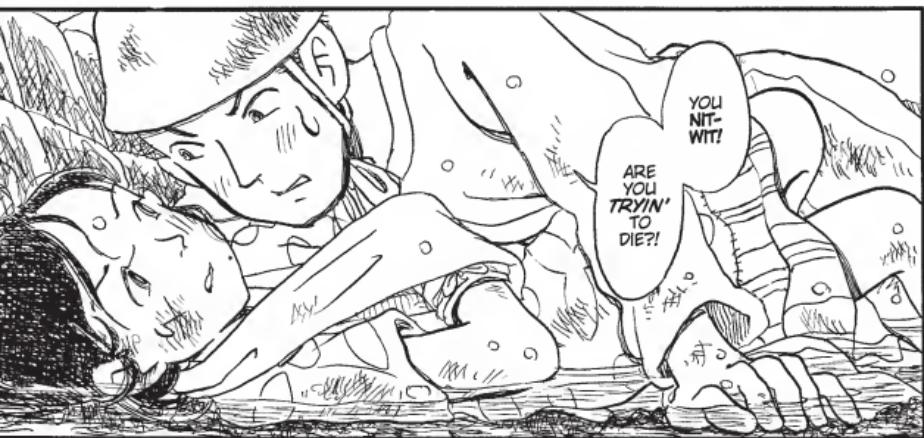
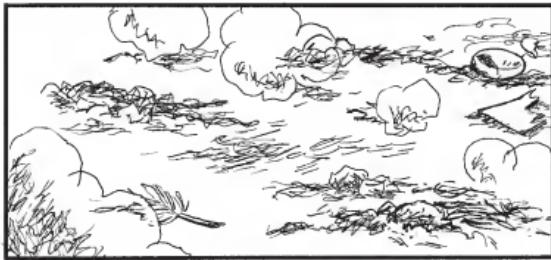
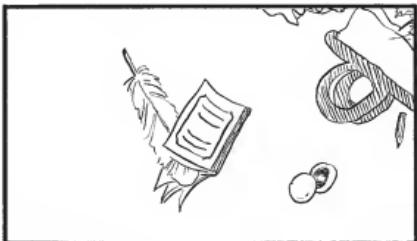
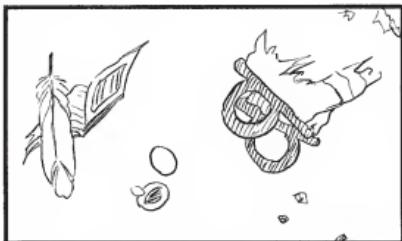
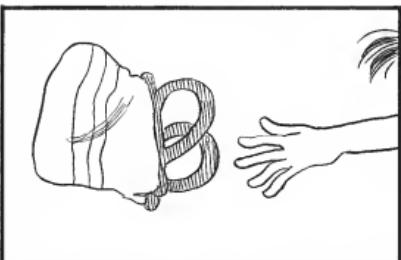
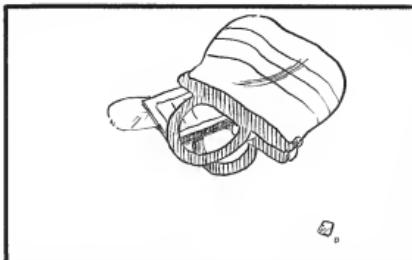
(July, 1945)











In July 1945 the Japanese navy's surviving large warships were primarily anchored around Kure. However, thanks to fuel shortages, none of them could maneuver. Instead, they were being used almost exclusively as floating anti-aircraft batteries. One of them was the *Aoba*, the warship on which Matsuura was stationed.



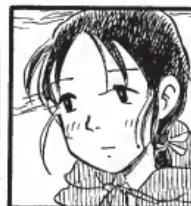
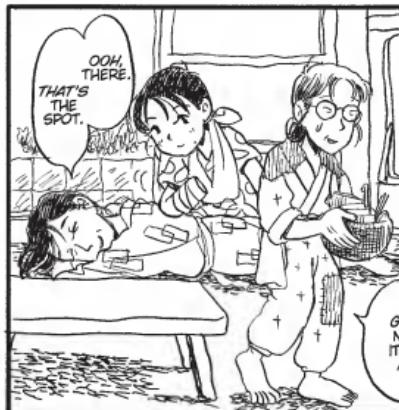




CHAPTER 37

(August, 1945)

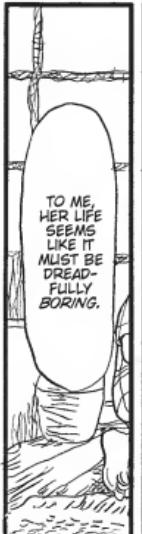
BROO —





Every year, on the 29th day of the sixth month in the old lunar calendar, Ebis town holds a grand and very boisterous Shinto rite honoring the sea, called the "Fire Festival." It was much more restrained during the war years, but even then there was still a street fair that the residents could enjoy.

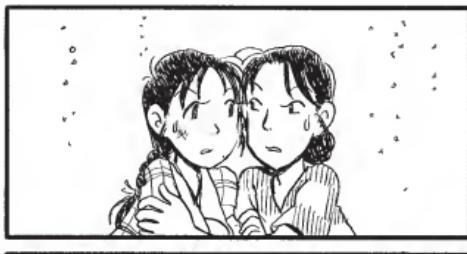






B
O
O
O
W







On August 6th, 1945, at approximately 8:15 A.M. the B-29 Superfortress Enola Gay dropped the first atomic bomb, nicknamed "Little Boy," on the city of Hiroshima. (Note: It was approximately 20 kilometers from the hypocenter of the blast in Hiroshima to the Hogo house in Kure. It is thought that it took approximately one minute for the sound of the explosion to cross that distance.)

CHAPTER 38

(August, 1945)

WHAT'S
THE
RADIO
SAY?

DUNNO.
IT'S BEEN
NOTHING
BUT
STATIC.

THEY'RE
TURNING
THE
TRAINS
BACK
WHEN
THEY HIT
KOYALIRA
NOW.

I HEARD
IT WAS
THE
POWER
PLANT
IN
SAKA.

THEY'RE
SAYIN'
THE BIG
MAGAZINE
OVER IN
KAITA
BLEW.

YOKOHAMA

MURASHIMA

MURAKAMI

KAITA-TUJI

YANO

SAKA

KOYALIRA

ANNA-
WASAI

TEINOU

KAMU-
HAMA

DOSHIMA

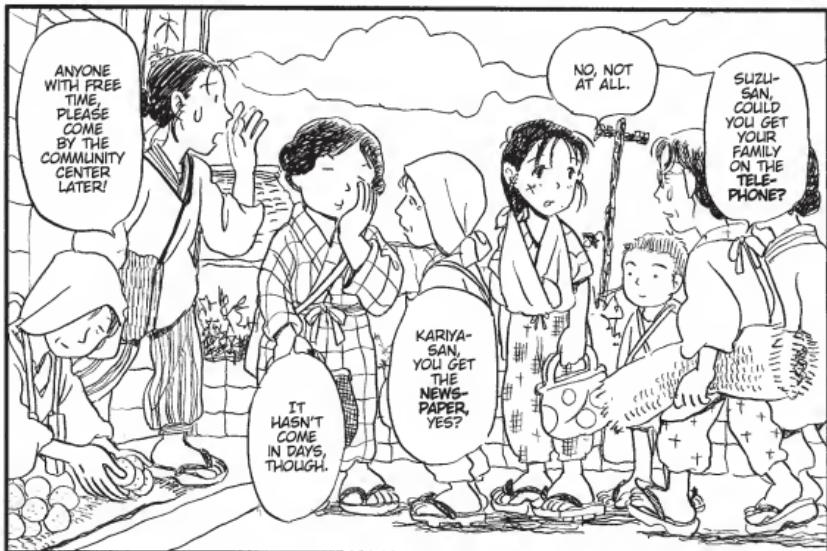
ANAMASAKI

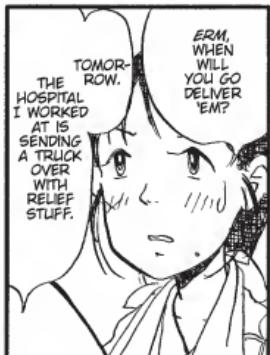
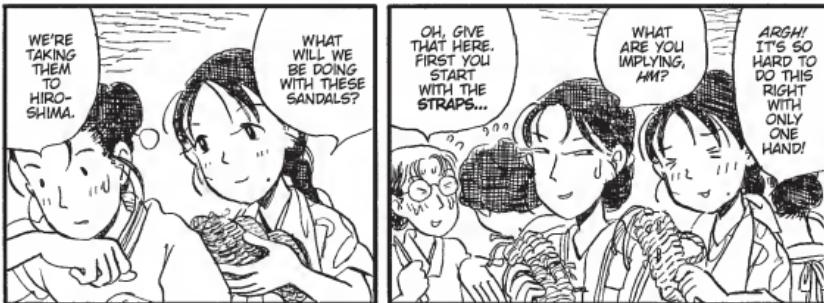
KURE

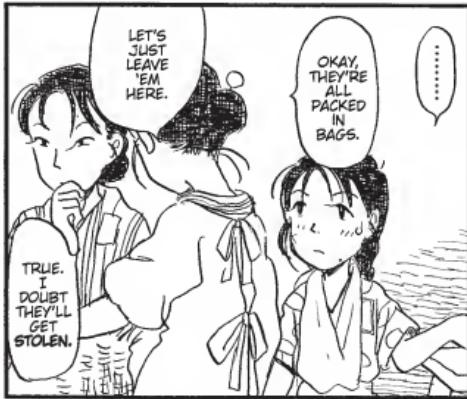
ALA

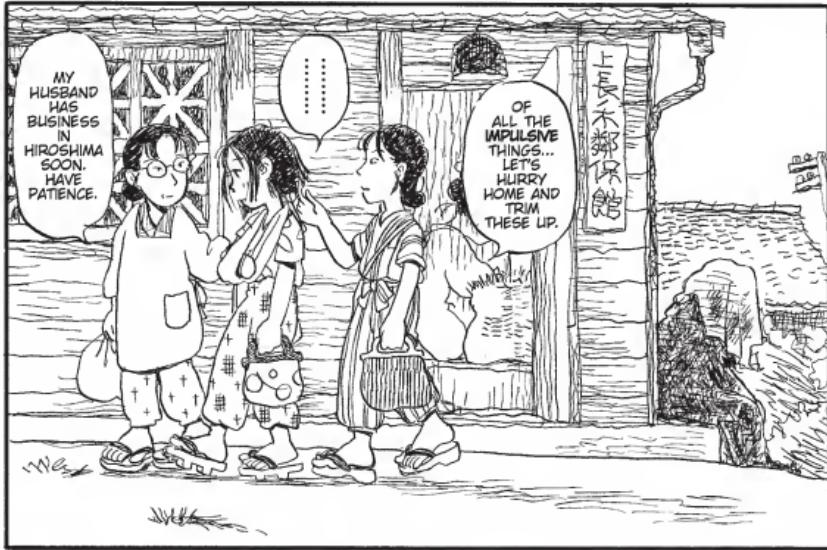
WHAT,
JUST THE
ARMY
TESTING
A NEW
BOMB?
NAAAH.
COULDN'T
BE.
DON'T
GET
YOUR
HOPES
UP.

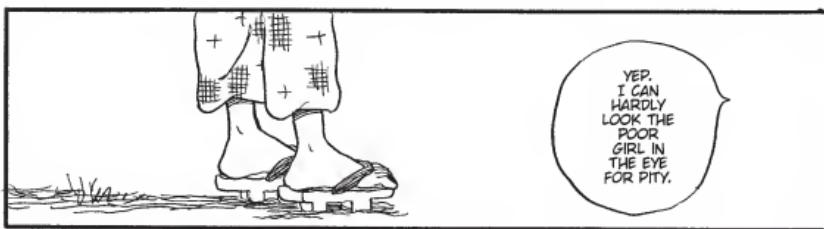
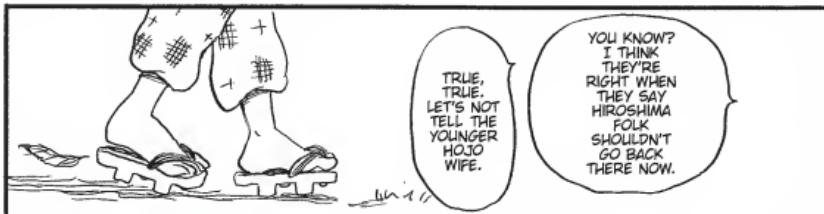
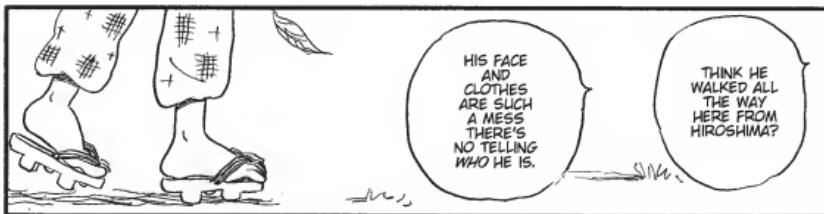
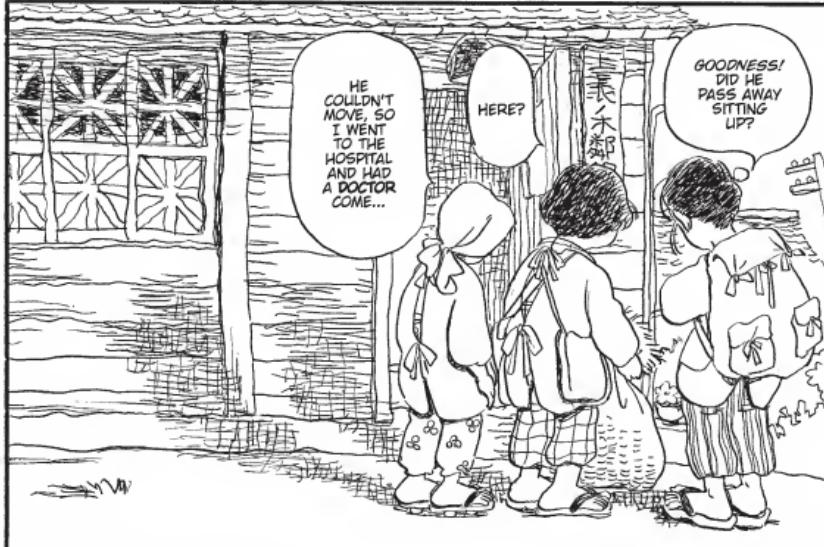
The Kawanishi train station was closed in 1940 as a fuel conservation measure. It was not reopened until 1958.









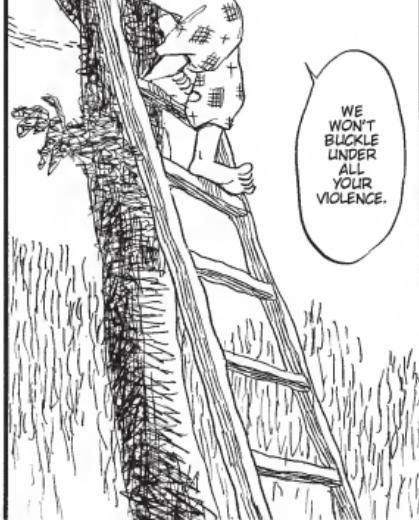
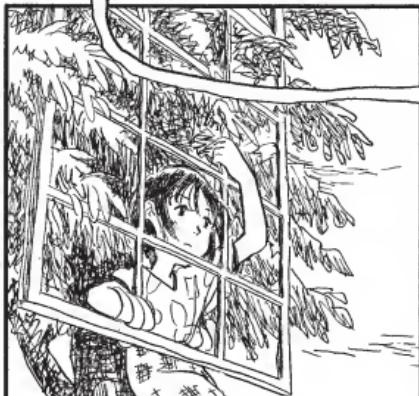




Eucalyptus leaves have a scent that insects dislike. The smoke they give off when burned is an effective mosquito repellent.



The day after the atom bomb was dropped, several thousand Kure residents mobilized in a large-scale relief effort, taking needed supplies to the victims in Hiroshima. Of course, this effort exposed them to the residual radiation, making them secondary victims of the bombing.



CHAPTER 39

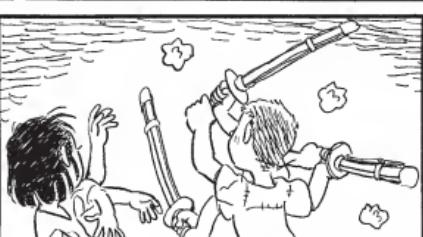
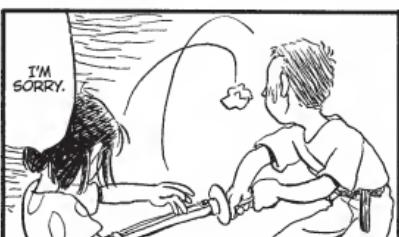
(August, 1945)





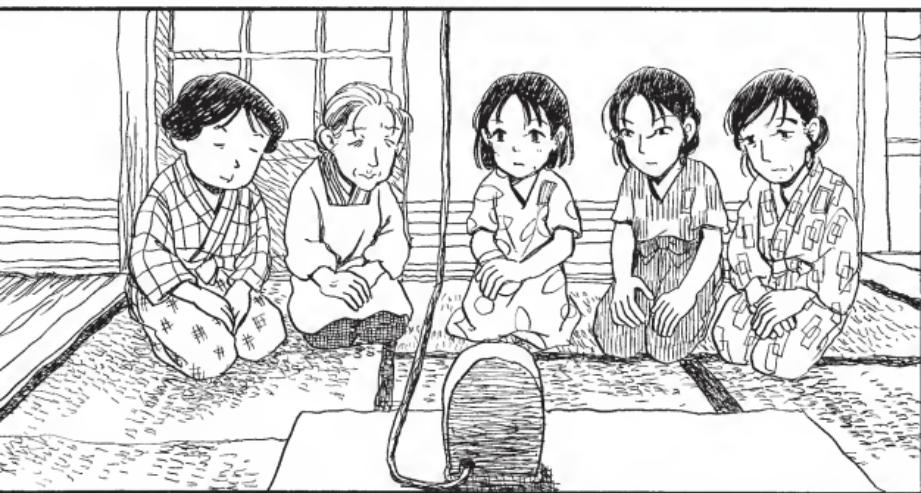
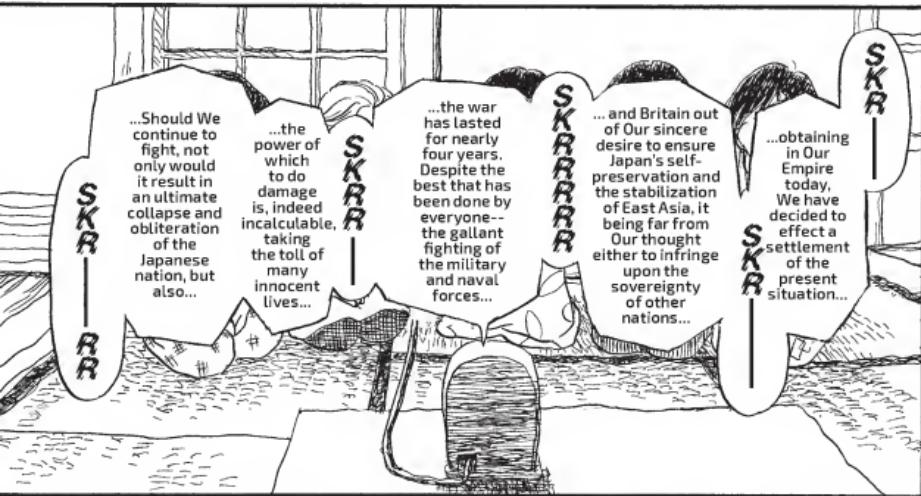
IF THIS WAR CONTINUES,
THE RESULT WILL BE THE DESTRUCTION OF
THE NATION OF JAPAN. THIS IS A CLEAR AND
PRESENT TRUTH. THE LONGER THIS WAR
CONTINUES, THE GREATER AN EFFORT IT WILL
TAKE TO REBUILD AFTERWARD. JAPAN MAY
BE RENDERED WEAK AND POWERLESS
FOREVER. IT IS EASY TO SACRIFICE YOUR
LIFE FOR THE SAKE OF YOUR COUNTRY.
HOWEVER, BRINGING AN END TO THIS WAR
AND BEGINNING THE EFFORT TO REBUILD
IS THE TRUE ACT OF LOYALTY.





At the end of the Pacific War, the Allied Forces used B-29 Superfortresses to drop millions of propaganda leaflets on specifically targeted Japanese cities, purportedly hoping to reduce innocent casualties. Called the "Leaflet bombing leaflet," as their use was ordered by General Curtis LeMay, these leaflets warned of impending bombings or exhorted the Japanese people to accept surrender. In response, the Japanese government ordered anyone who picked up these leaflets to turn them over directly to the authorities without reading them. There were strict penalties for anyone who did read or keep them.

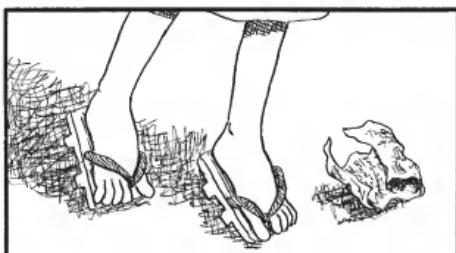


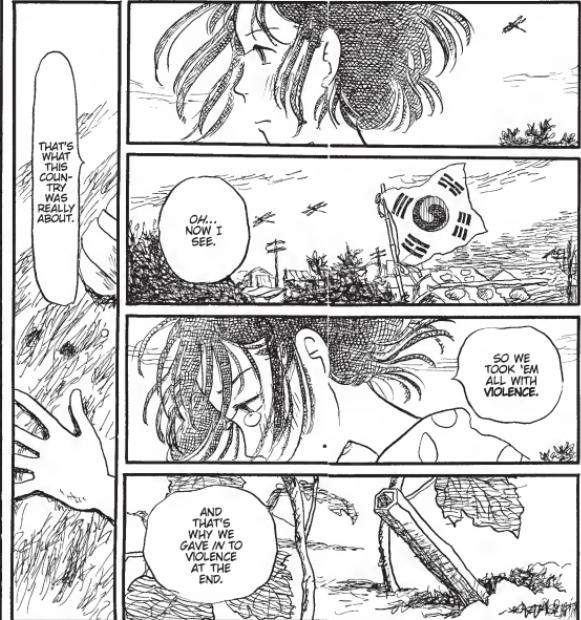


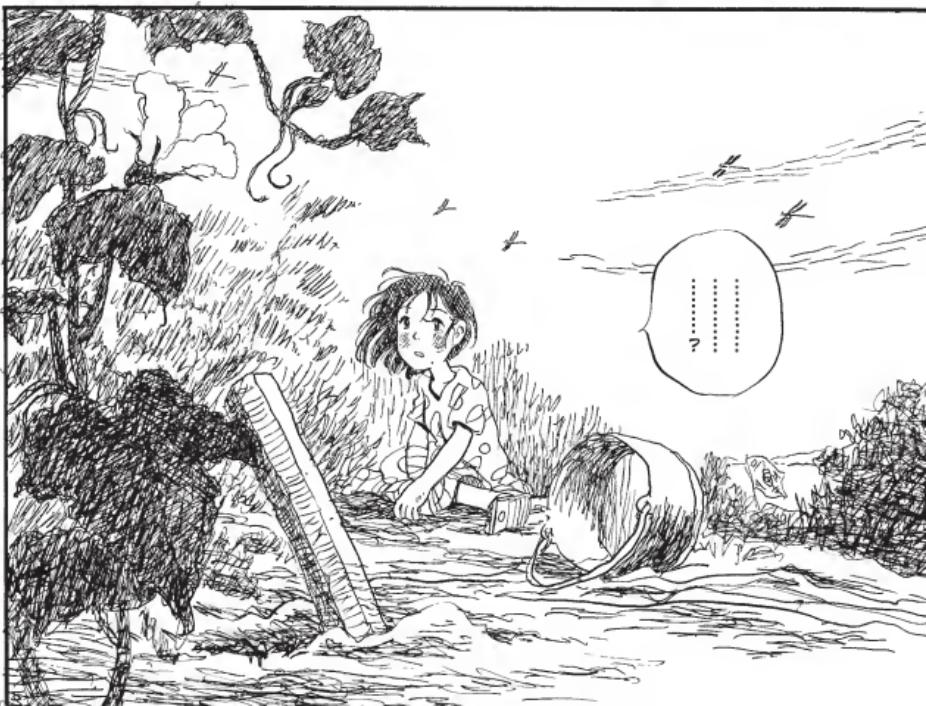
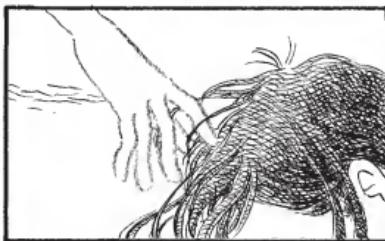
At high noon on August 15th, 1945, there was a radio broadcast of Emperor Hirohito reading aloud the Imperial Rescript on the termination of the War, which brought World War II to a close. This was likely the first time the common people of Japan heard the Imperial voice. Unfortunately, given that the broadcast was of a phonograph recording of the Emperor reading the Rescript, and that the speech itself was chanted in classical courtly Japanese, most people barely understood what was being said.



IT'S
ALL
BEEN
BLOWN
AWAY...

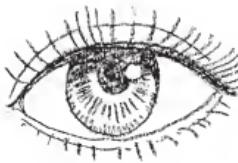






CHAPTER 40

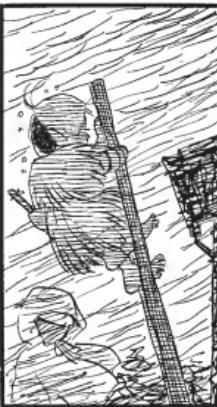
(September, 1945)

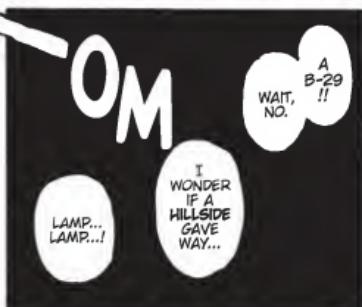
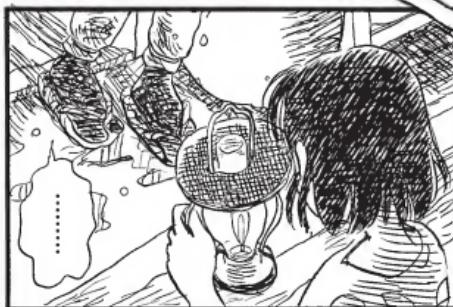
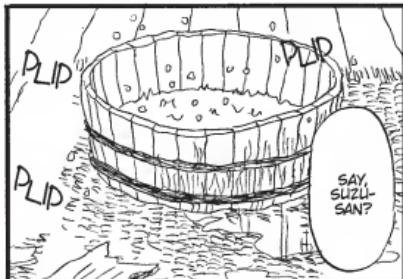


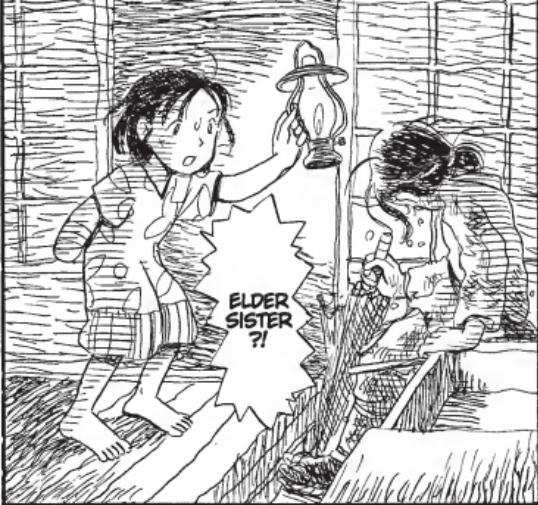
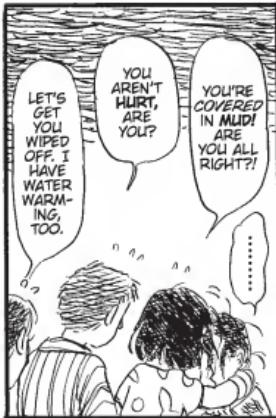
NOW
WHAT
WE HAVE
HERE IS
A BIG
ROUND
EYE.

The Makurazaki Typhoon blew through the Hiroshima region September 17th and 18th, 1945. Considered one of the three most devastating typhoons in the Showa Era, it ripped across the wreckage of Hiroshima and Kure, destroying much of what had managed to survive the bombings. Over 2,400 people were killed by the storm, 264 of them in Kure.



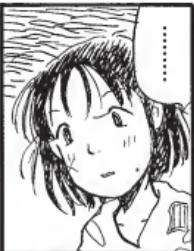






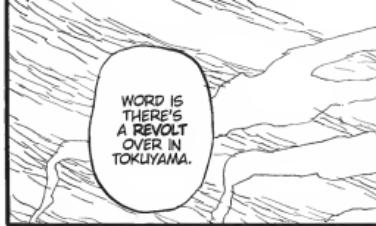




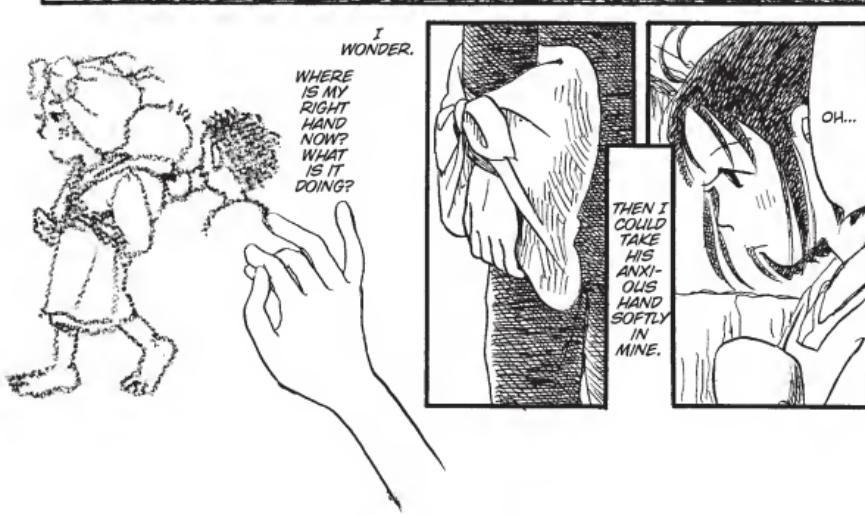




The only other time Japan faced the threat of invasion by a foreign power in its history was in the late 13th century, when the Mongols twice attempted to invade from the Korean peninsula. Both times the invading fleet was destroyed by a typhoon. These typhoons came to be described as "divine winds" sent by the gods to protect Japan. The word for "divine wind" in Japanese is *kami kaze*.



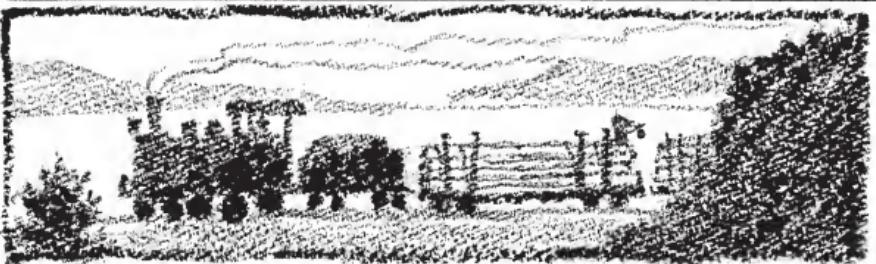
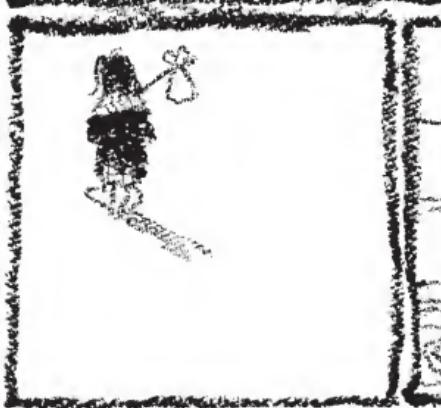
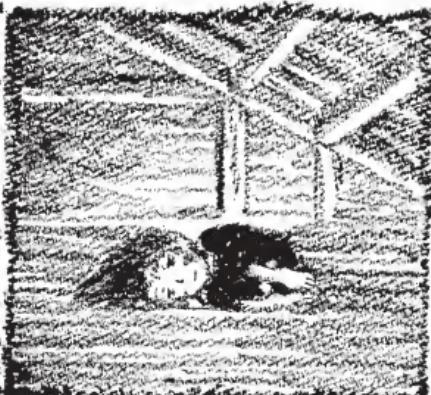
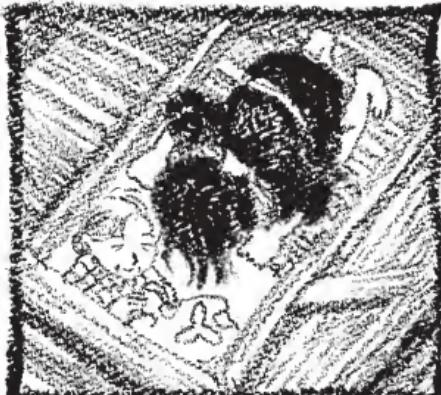
After the end of the war, there were still pockets of resistance to Japan's surrender. Official Imperial Edicts were issued to suppress them.







The American occupation forces arrived in Hiroshima's harbor on October 6th, 1945. At noon on the 7th, 19,500 navy personnel disembarked and took up quarters in the Kure region. The Japanese residents, fearing attack by the soldiers, stayed locked inside their homes or evacuated the city entirely.



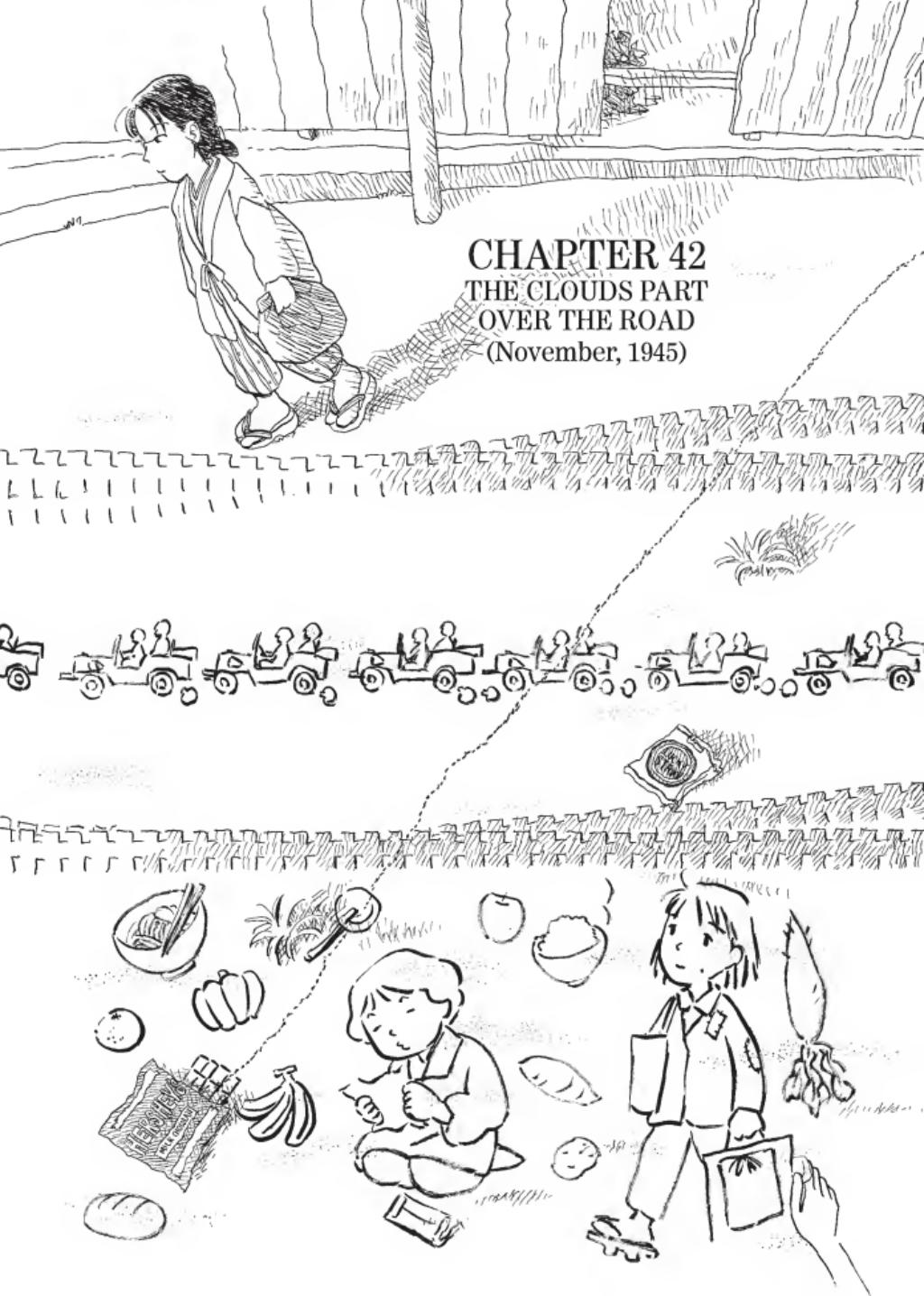
國産業大見博立
The Great Exposition of the National Defense
& Industry at Kure City







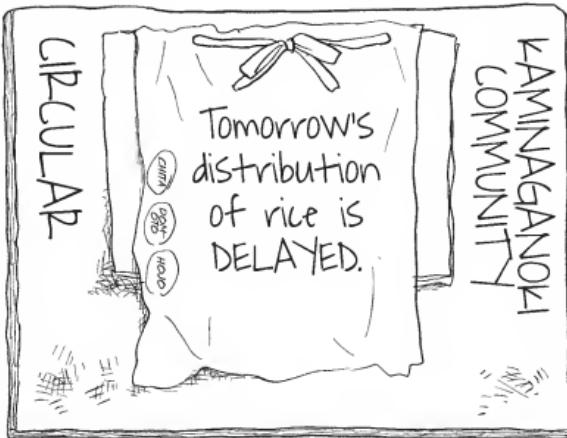




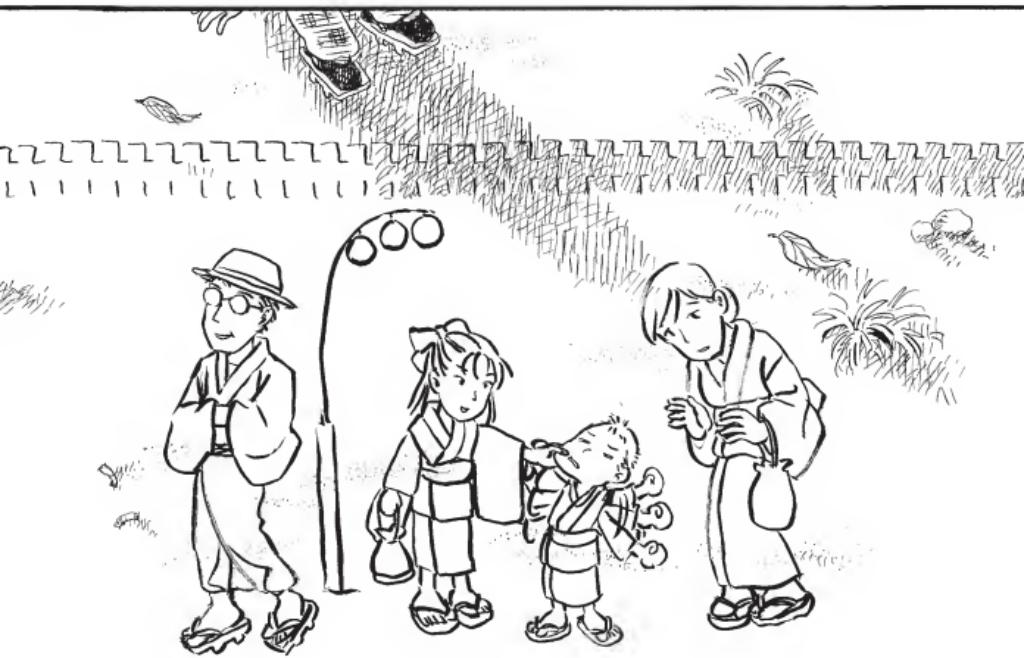
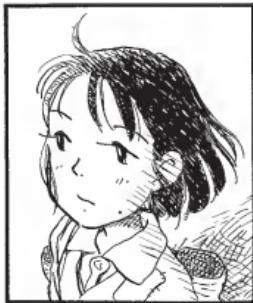
CHAPTER 42

THE CLOUDS PART OVER THE ROAD

(November, 1945)

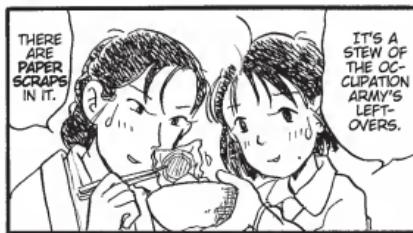


Thanks to crop failures and typhoons, a damage to roads, Kariya's already poor food supply dropped to near famine levels after the end of the war.

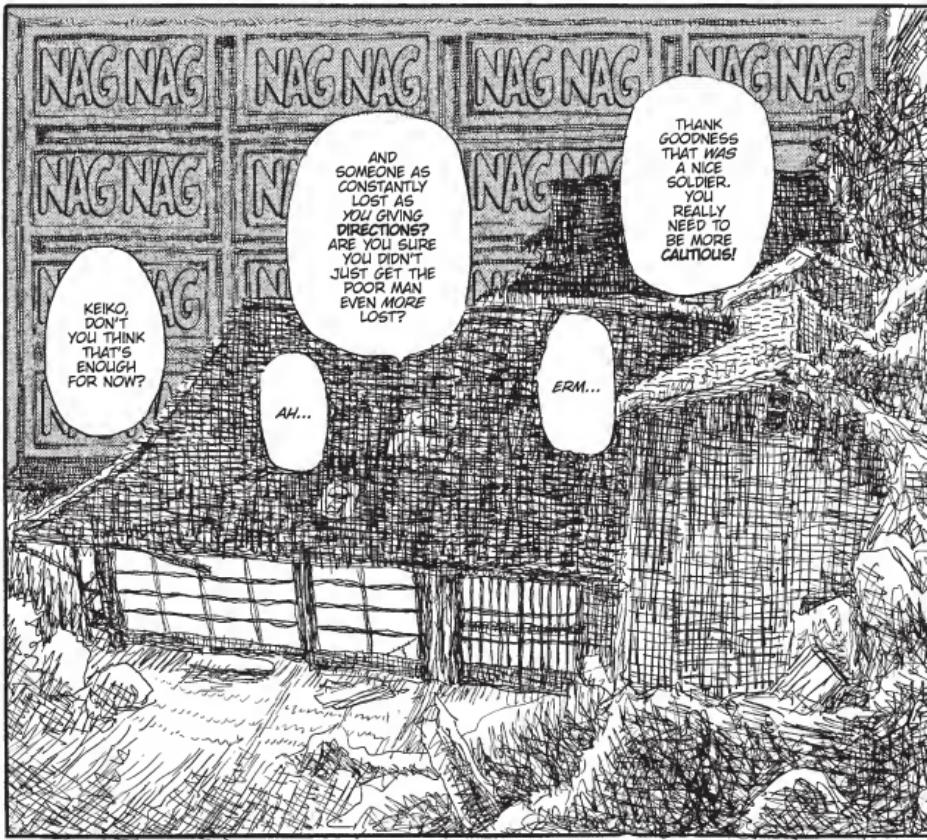










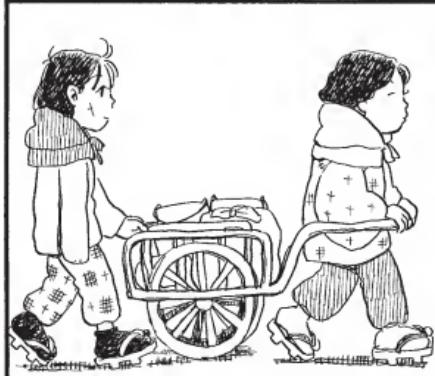
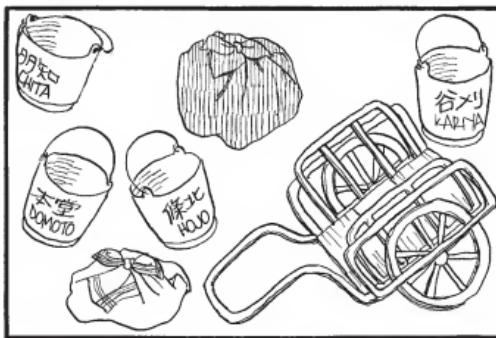


Though the U.S. Army was the first to occupy Kure after the war, they handed over control of the Chugoku and Shikoku regions (which included Hiroshima) to the British Commonwealth Occupation Force (BCOF) in February of 1946. The BCOF was a joint force of the British, Australian, Indian, and New Zealand armies. Over thirty thousand BCOF troops landed in Kure.

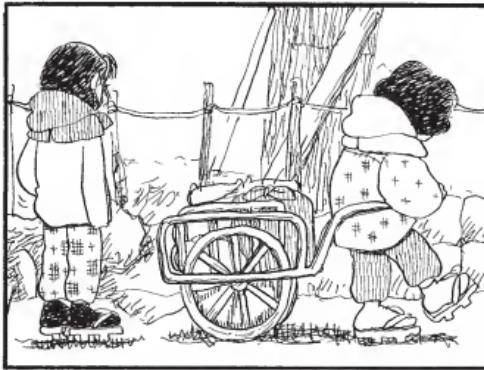
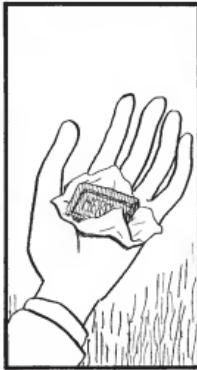
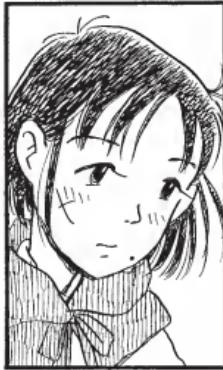
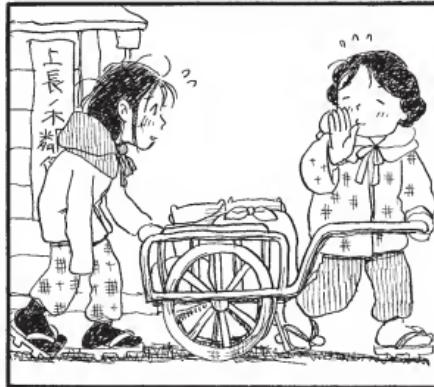
CHAPTER 43

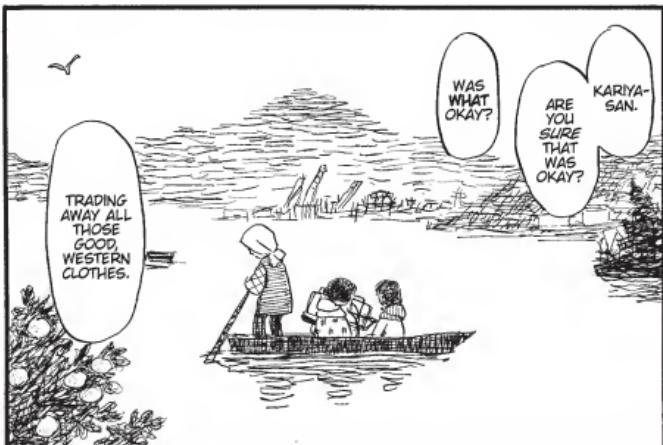
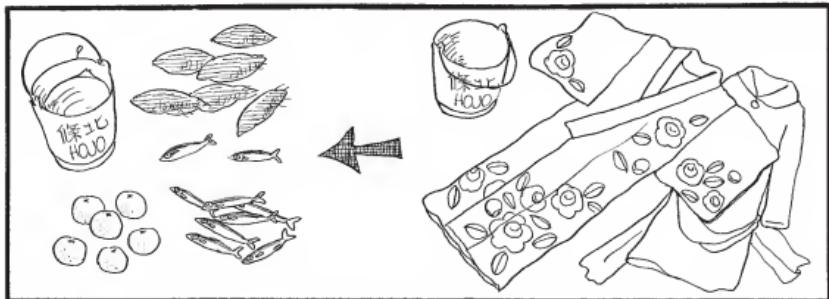
OF HERONS AND NEW LEAVES

(December, 1945)



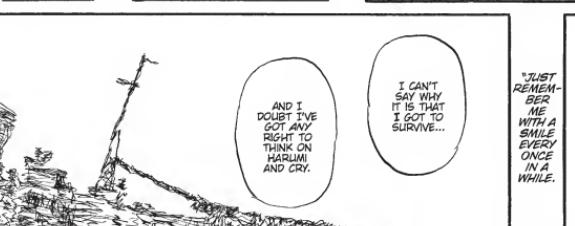
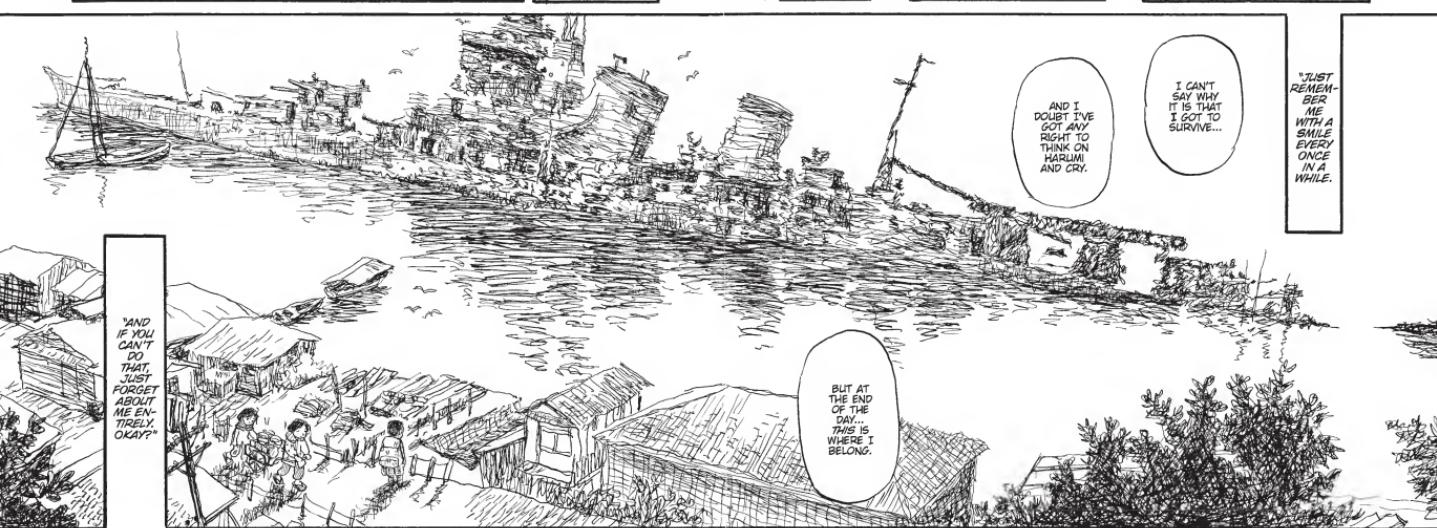
* 1 sho is about 0.5 gallons/1.89 liters, while 1 kin is about 1.32 pounds/600 grams.





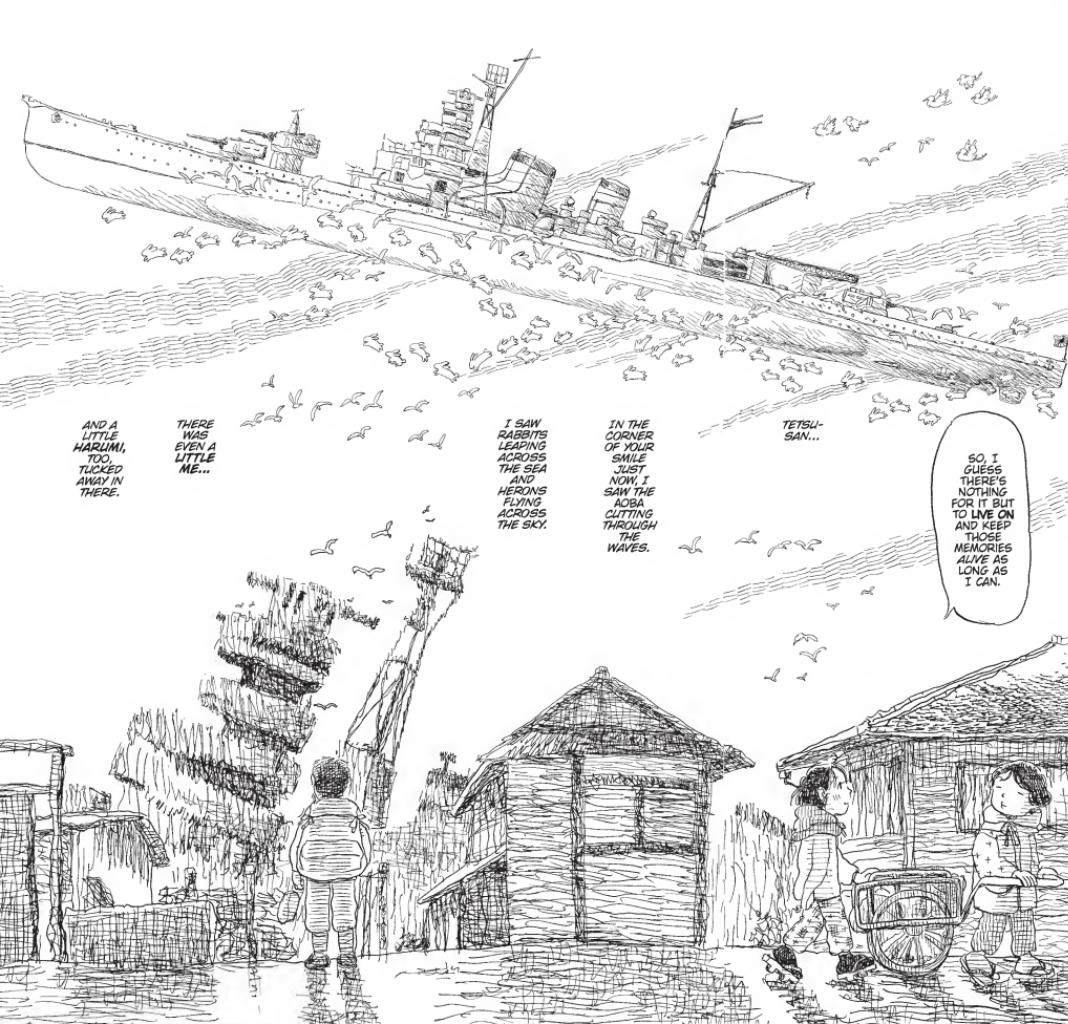


REMEMBER BACK IN AUGUST, WHEN WE FOUND THAT POOR DEAD SOLDIER OUTSIDE THE COMMUNAL CENTER?



"JUST REMEMBER ME WITH A SMILE EVERY ONCE IN A WHILE."





EVERY-
ONE AND
EVERY-
THING I'VE
KNOWN
IN THIS
WORLD...
YOU CAN
FIND THEM
ALL IN
THERE.

SO I'LL
REMEMBER
HER WHEN
I SMILE,
TOO.

I
THINK
I AL-
WAYS WILL
...
FOR
YEARS
AND
YEARS
AND
YEARS.

IN THE
FLASH OF
MY EYE
WHEN I
SMILE,
IN THE
BACK OF
MY NOSE
WHEN I
CRY.

IN ALL
THE
MEMORIES
I HAVE
OF HER,
HARUMI
WAS
ALWAYS
SMILING.

IN THE
WRINKLE
OF MY
BROW
WHEN I
FROWN.

THERE'S
NO POINT
TO SITTING
AROUND
CRYING ALL
DAY. IT'D BE
NOTHING BUT
A WASTE...

YEP,
YOU'VE
GOT THE
RIGHT
OF IT.

OF
SALT!

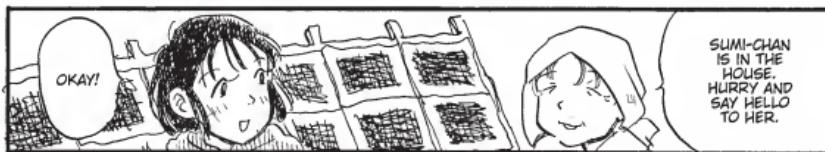
AAAHH!
SALT
IS SO
GOOD!!



CHAPTER 44

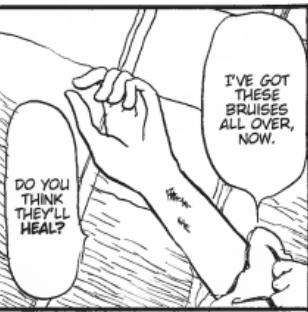
THE TOWN WHERE THEY WAIT

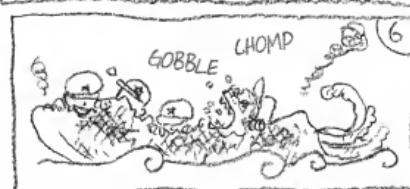
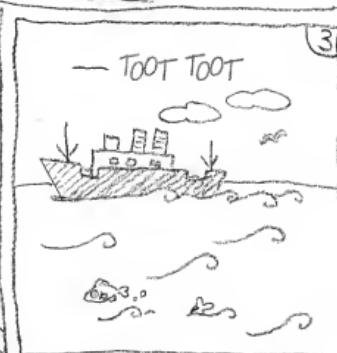
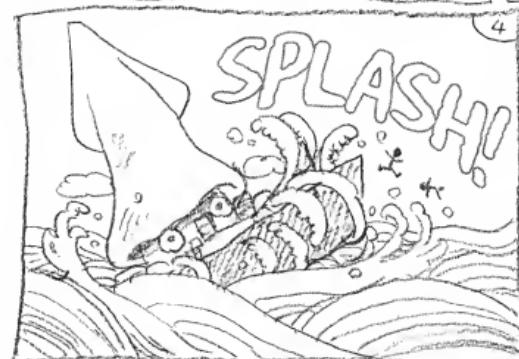
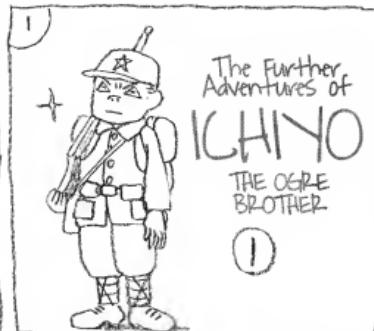
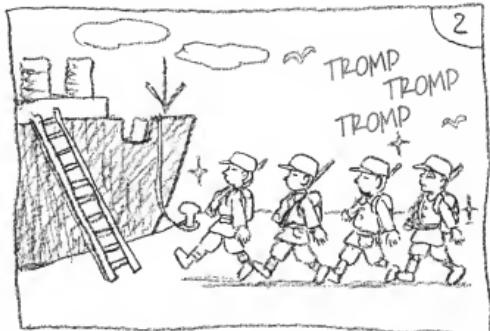
January, 1946



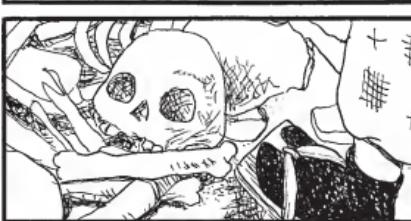
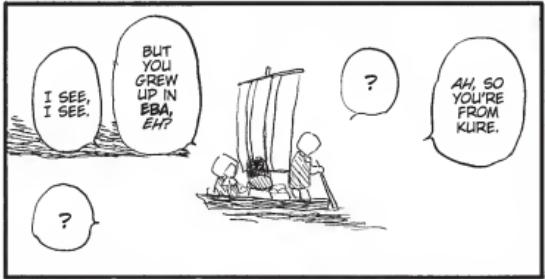
Kusatsu, located 4.5 kilometers from the hypocenter in Hiroshima, was almost completely unaffected by the blast. Era, which was 3.5 kilometers away, had some damage to its buildings, but that was all. Both communities opened their homes and took in victims of the bombing.

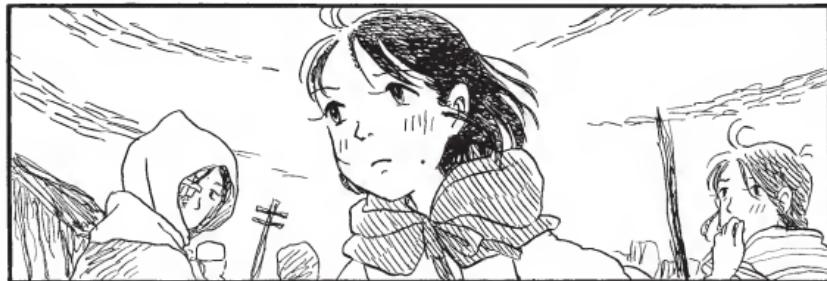
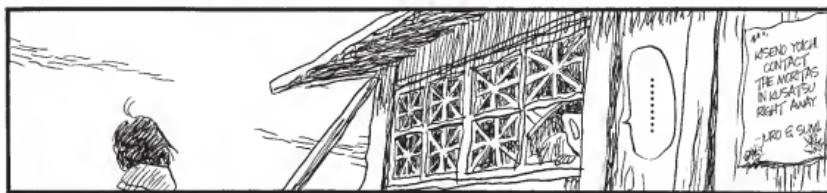
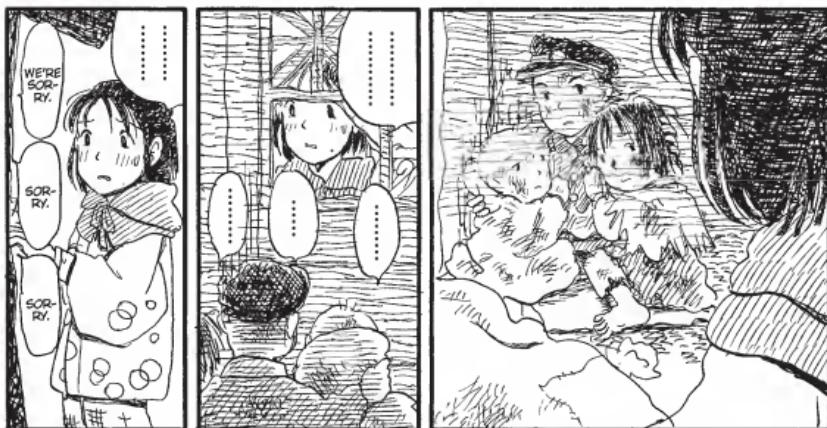
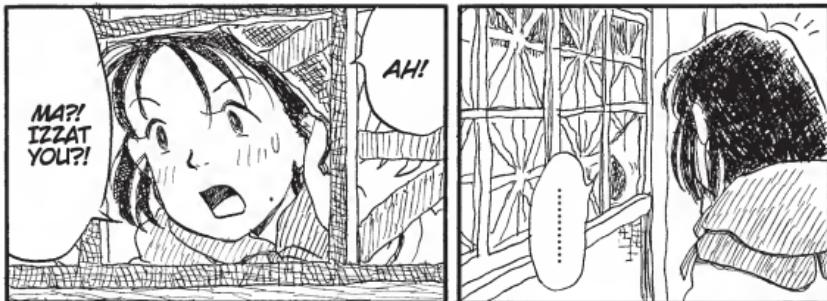






To Be Continued...



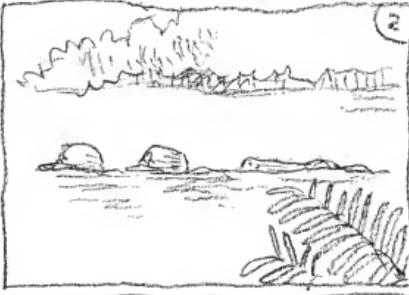


The Further Adventures of ICHYO THE OGRE BROTHER

2



3



2



5



4



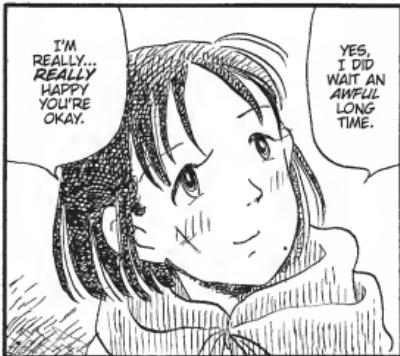
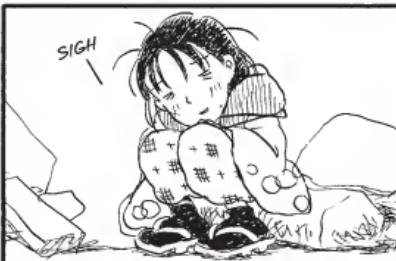
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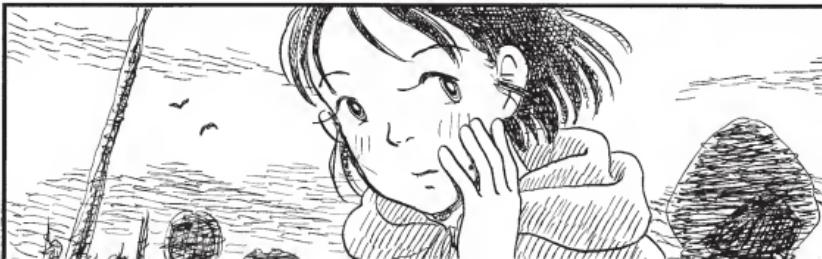
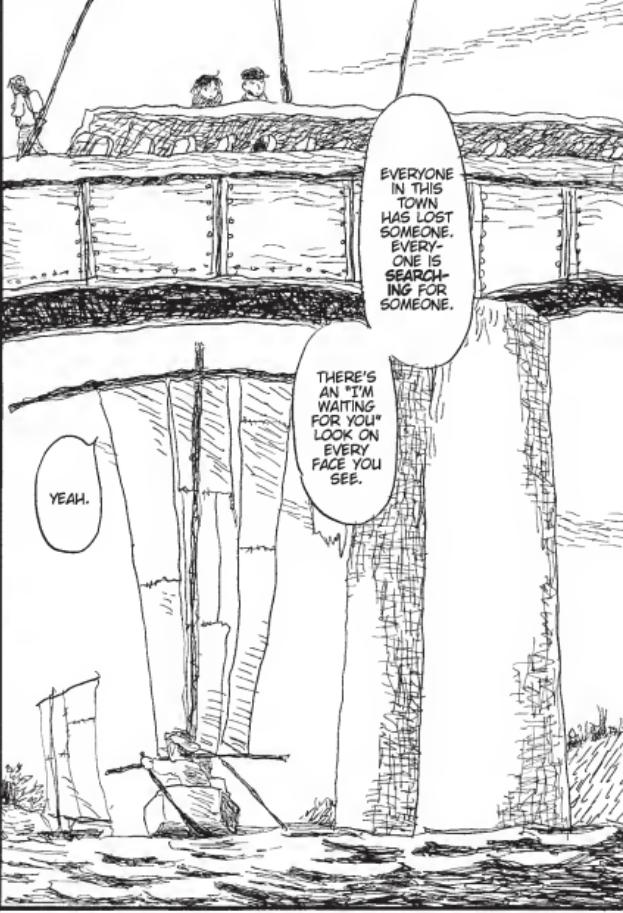


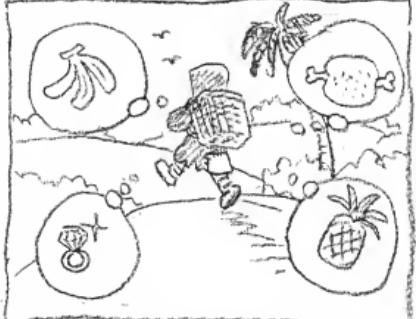
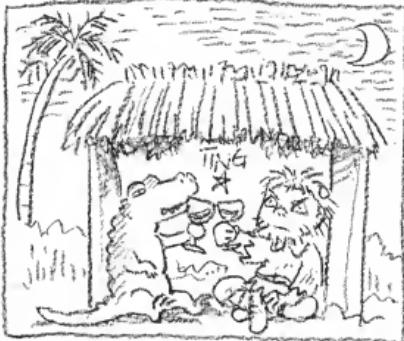
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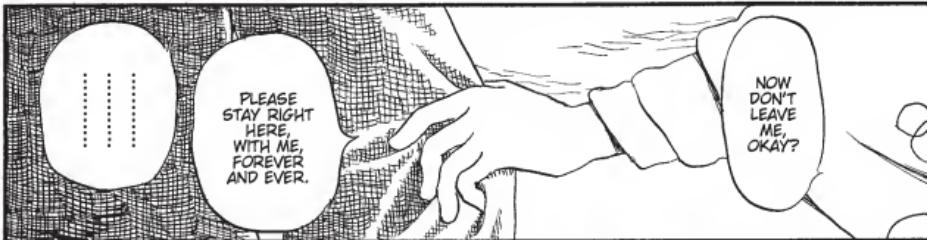
To Be Continued...











FINAL CHAPTER

A LETTER OF HAPPINESS

(January, 1946)



Please pardon the abruptness.

Shards of many a thing glitter and wink at you from the gutter.



Carrying with it the salty scent of the sea?



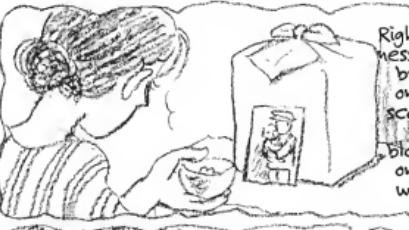
After all, even though it is mid-winter, is there not a warm wind blowing....



And at night, a seaweed-colored darkness wraps around you.



The soft, warm rays of the sun stroke your back.

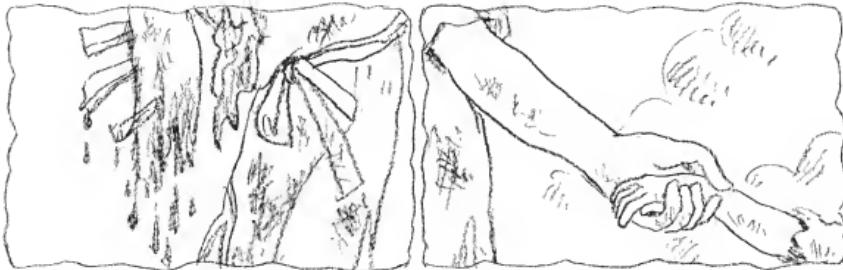


Righteousness burns bright, only to scatter like blossoms on the wind...



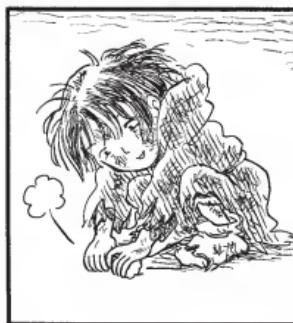
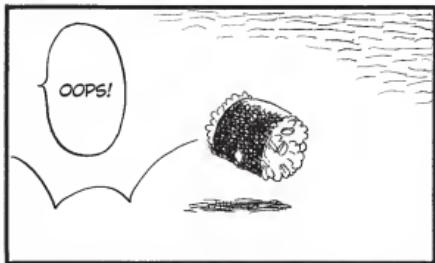
A love that can be found within everything...

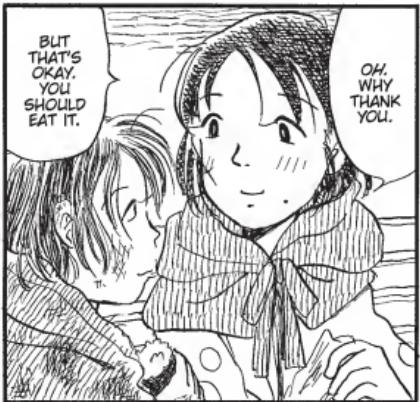
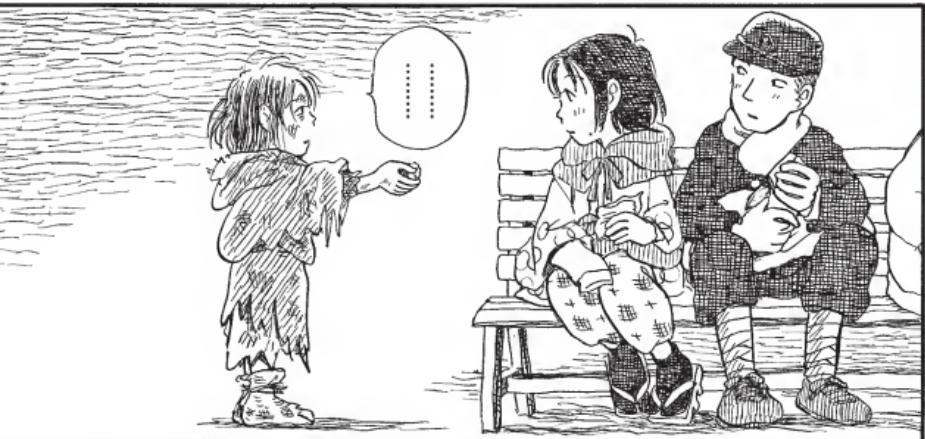


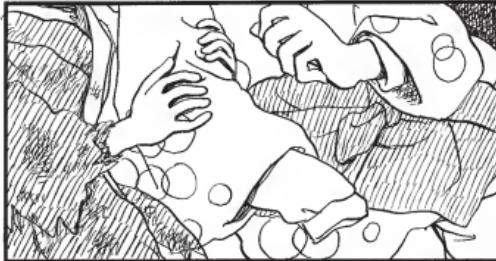
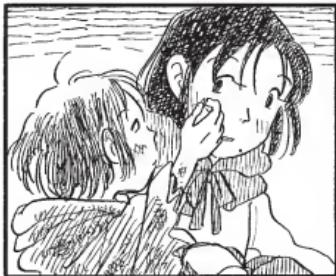




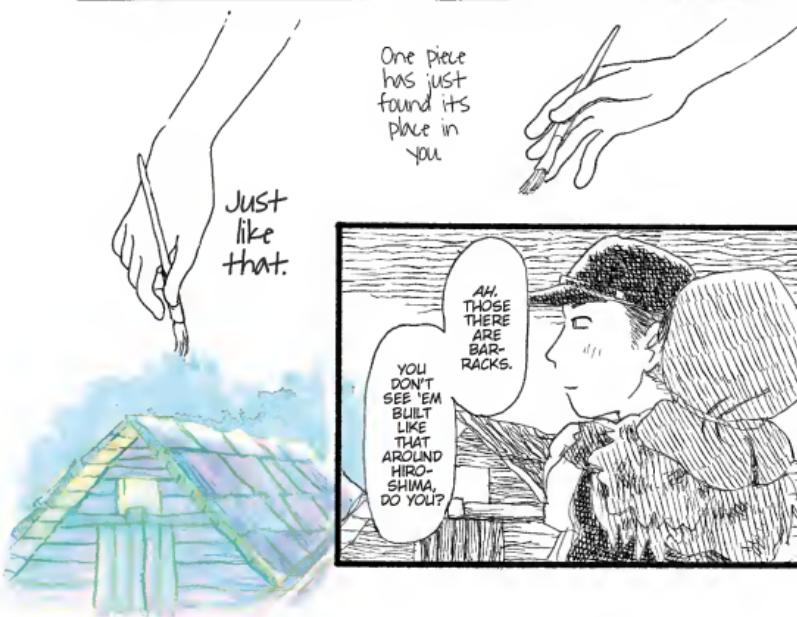
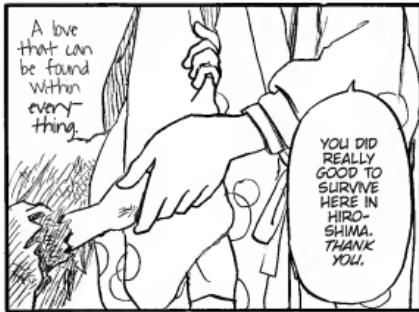








© source, the train was the only mode of transport for most. It was very crowded at the time.



There. See?



Slope-roofed barracks were a type of emergency housing proposed by the Navy. Easily built and used by people with little construction knowledge, several thousand of them were built and allotted to those in need.



WOW! AH,
DID SHE
FALL
ASLEEP??

OUR
HOUSE
IS ON
ITS
SLOPE.

THERE IN
THE MIDDLE
IS MT.
HAIGAMINE.



BEYOND
THAT
ONE IS
HIRO-
SHIMA.

AND
TO THE
LEFT
IS MT.
HACH-
MAKI.

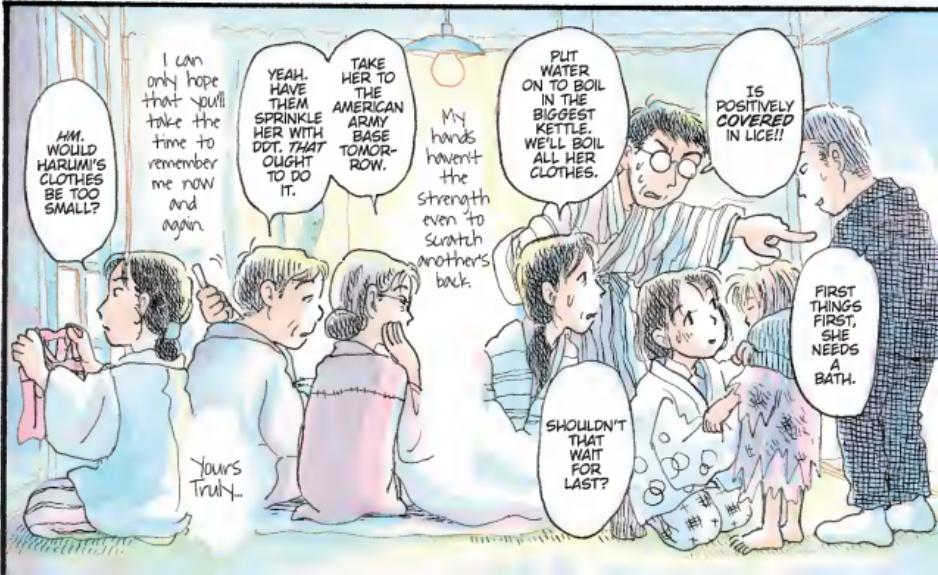


TO THE
FAR
RIGHT
IS MT.
YASUMI.

BEHIND
US IS THE
SEA.

LOOK.
NINE
MOUNTAINS
PROTECT
KURE.
THAT'S
WHAT GOT
THE NAME
"KU-RE,"
MEANING
NINE
PEAKS.

DDT, or dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane, is a topical insecticide. The Allied Armies, seeing how poor hygiene had become for some war



In this
Corner
of the World
[END]

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- Mr. Yoshiaki Saito, from the Irifuneyama Memorial Museum, who kindly and patiently answered my odd and ignorant questions.
- Mr. Kazuhiko Nakagawa, my grandmother's cousin, who told me what it was like to be a clerk for the Imperial Japanese Navy's Courts Martial.
- Mrs. Junko Okazaki, my aunt, who spoke to me of her memories of living in Kure.
- Dr. Tatsuo Kubota and Toshihisa Kido, who directed me to many useful references.
- Mrs. Nagomi Aoyama, who guided me up a snowy Mt. Halgamine.
- Mr. Kiyokazu Watanabe and Mrs. Rei Tensei for teaching me a Kyushu accent.
- Futabasha's Makoto Someya, who was patient with me even when I missed my deadlines. (I'm so sorry!!)

About Hiroshima

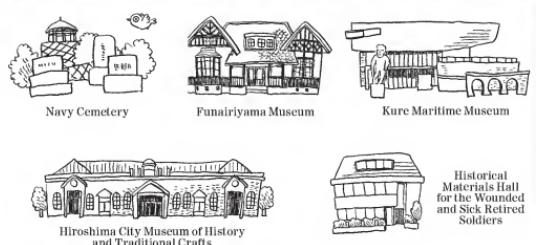
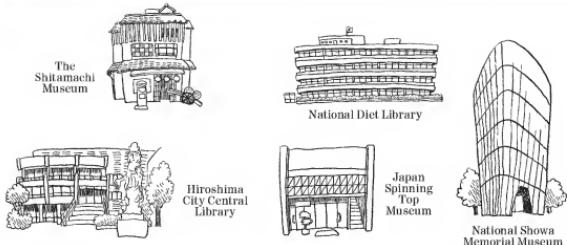
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Additional Notes

During the serialization of this series, it came to my attention that the first air raid warning in Kure was actually sounded in June of 1944, not July (see note on page 138 of Volume 1).

Also, though Shimonagamori People's School was fabricated for the sake of the story, it was modeled after the real-life Tatsukawa People's School (which would later become Tatsukawa Elementary School).

THE VERY HELPFUL LOCATIONS I VISITED



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AFTERWORD

A pollen-filled morning, February, 2009

I have not experienced dying yet, so I can't say if it is the greatest unhappiness that can befall a person. I have also never been anyone but myself, so it is hard to strictly say I fully understand the nobility and magnificence of all life. Perhaps because of that, sometimes I feel like I have a difficult time understanding "war pieces" that insist on measuring the weight of tragedy through the "death" of "everyone." Usually, the first thing I will then try to do is learn about the "individuals" who must have been there, and the joys and sadness in each of their lives.

Both now and back then, Kure has been a marvel of a city, with both a bravery and grace to it. On a more personal level, it is my mother's home town. What did the people connected to me wish for and what did they lose? Twenty three years passed between the end of the war and the time I came into their lives and, as many of them have since passed away, there is no way for me to know for certain now. Thus this work is, in the end, little more than my interpretation. I simply took the "memories" of the cheerful and quiet "lives" they must have led as a cornerstone, and began to draw.

To be honest, I didn't think I would ever finish it.

All the guiding souls I have met. The little place for a story about the years 1943 to 1946 in a manga anthology published in 2006 to 2009. The everyday peace of being able to draw with my dominant hand. And that you are here, reading this sentence right now.

I believe all of these are miracles.

Thank you.

Fumiyo
Kouno



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story and art by **FUMIYO KOUNO**

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Jason DeAngelis

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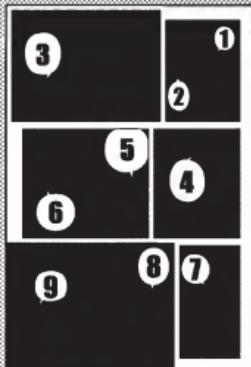
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READING DIRECTIONS

This book reads from *right to left*, Japanese style. If this is your first time reading manga, you start reading from the top right panel on each page and take it from there. If you get lost, just follow the numbered diagram here. It may seem backwards at first, but you'll get the hang of it! Have fun!!



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1940's Hiroshima Prefecture. Suzu, a young woman from the countryside, joins her new husband and his family in the shipbuilding city of Kure. As her beautiful home collapses around her, Suzu must confront the challenges of a new life while coming to grips with a world in turmoil. Unwilling to give up hope, Suzu struggles against the horrors of war to create her own happiness.

[Volume 3 of 3]

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